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THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

How Much Do College
Students Read?

The Catholic Parish
Library

The Family:
An Annotated Reading List

C.P.I. Report



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The Catholic Library World

Vol. 17

May - 1946

No. 8
Part Two¹

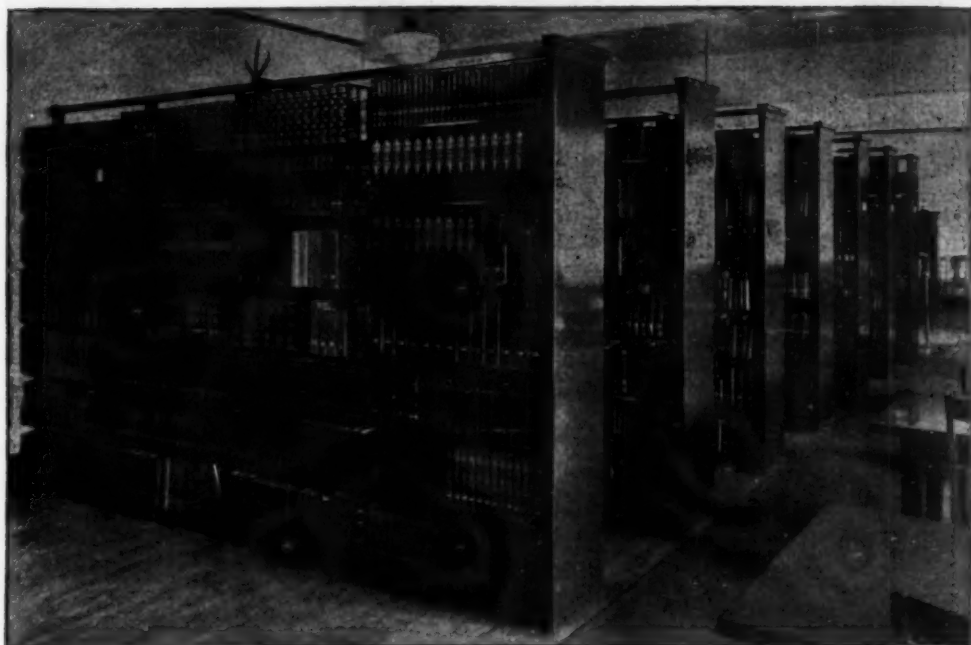
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Vol. 17, No. 8, Part Two, May, 1946. *The Catholic Library World*, published from Oct. through May, is the official organ of the Catholic Library Association. It is sent to all members and carries news of the Association, its officers, boards, committees, regional conferences, units, joint committees and such other material as throws light on Catholic library problems. Publication and editorial office, University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Subscription rate to non-members is \$5.00 a year. Institutional membership, \$5.00; individual membership, \$3.00 a year, (not including the annual Handbook and Index), payable to the Secretary-Treasurer. Enclose remittance for single copies which are available from the publication office at fifty cents, with the exception of the Proceedings issue which is \$1.00. Entered as second class matter at Scranton, Pennsylvania, under the Act of May 3, 1879. Accepted for mailing at the special rate of postage prescribed in paragraphs 9 and 10, Section 562.

Dorothy E. Lynn, Editor, Box 631, Scranton 1, Pennsylvania
Indexed in *The Catholic Periodical Index* and *Library Literature*

1. Part One of No. 8 is the Handbook (pp. 225-267), sent only to \$5.00 members.

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How Much Do College Students Read?

By SISTER MARY ELVIRA, O.S.F.

College of Saint Francis, Joliet, Illinois

College libraries have grown rapidly in recent years, and the library at the College of Saint Francis has kept pace with the times and has increased more than one hundred and fifty per cent since 1932. In the process of the selection of books, the library has always sought such that have permanent value, genuine relationship to the liberal arts and professional programs offered, books that fit in with the extra-curricular activities, and those that have special appeal for leisure reading. It has also sought to make the collection cross rigid departmental boundary lines in order to make available to faculty and student body material dealing with all areas of culture, even those the curriculum does not specifically touch. It has further sought to include books that embody the Catholic philosophy of life, so necessary to the minds and hearts of Catholic students.

All this demands an intimate knowledge of the content and scope of the existing collection and a wide acquaintance with human cultural accomplishments. However, fruitful faculty co-operation, through the years, through a general and departmental library budget system, has aided in this great task, and has made the present collection possible. This co-operation has eliminated independence and autonomy and helped to make the library a place of co-ordination of the intellectual activities of the school, a mirror of the culture in general at the

College of Saint Francis. From this co-operation evolves a sound collection of books which holds potential wisdom and pleasure for its readers.

Newer methods in education today involve increased freedom and responsibility on the part of the student, so that the book collection is today, more than ever before, an instructional tool of primary importance and the library, a place where an ever larger share of the student's work must be done.

Doctor Branscomb in the book, *Teaching with Books*, (A.L.A. '40) says that the characteristics of an educated individual are inquisitiveness, independence, intellectual courage and initiative. The college student acquires these characteristics while working on his own in a well-stocked library. There he will find intellectual awakening, self-improvement, greater preparation for his chosen work, and enrichment for his leisure hours; in other words, intellectual and spiritual growth, and relaxation for mind and body.

In view of these statements, it may be interesting to examine the results of a study on reading made at the College of Saint Francis. The problem of this study is: Is there a sufficient use made of the enlarged collection at Saint Francis? Just how much do the students read? How many books do they read per year? Is some of it non-assigned reading? What type of reading do they enjoy? What

particular titles? etc. To gather data of this nature, a questionnaire was given the student body; information was also culled from the circulation statistics of the "Librarian's Annual Reports". A total of one hundred and sixty-nine students, approximately fifty per cent of the student body, answered the questionnaire.

In answer to the questions, "Approximately how many books have you read during the school year 1944-1945? This year since school began?" the number of books read last year varied from zero to two hundred and fifty. Fourteen, eight per cent, of those who answered the question, read no books during 1944-1945. Among this non-reading group were two seniors, five juniors, seven sophomores, and one freshman. Of the three upper classes more students read ten books than any other number; and of the freshmen more students read twenty-five books than any other number. These figures would indicate that students read less in college than they do in high school. Of course, there were individuals among the upper classmen who read forty, fifty, and one read two hundred and fifty books. (The last figure is, however, improbable.)

As to the books read this year in a two-months period, there was again a number of zero's in each class, except the freshman class. For those who did read, two books is the usual number for seniors, juniors, and freshmen, and for the sophomores two and three are tie.

For the second questions, "Has the approximate number of books you read per year increased with each year in college? About how many per year?" Of the three upper classes only twenty-four says, "Yes"; while fifty-five answer, "No"; in fact a few added, "It decreased".

In answer to the third questions, "Does your book reading include recreational or non-assigned reading? If it does, about how many such books do you read per year? If not, why not?" One hundred and fourteen, a large majority, answer in the affirmative, and only thirty-seven say that their reading does not include recreational books. For those who declare that it does, the number of non-assigned books they read ranges from one to fifty with the number five most frequently given. Those who do not read recreational books give "No time" as the reason, except one sophomore who says that she doesn't like to read.

For the question, "What type of non-assigned reading do you enjoy?" one hundred and forty-three state "Fiction"; seventy-four like "Biography"; and fifty-four like other "Non-fiction"; totalling one hundred and twenty-eight votes for non-fiction. Only a few have a hobby interest in reading. One senior and two juniors give "history" reading as a hobby; two sophomores state "aviation" and one "fashions"; while one freshman declares "flowers" as her hobby and another, "sports".

To the fourth question, "Name titles of books you have especially enjoyed", the answers are varied, both in fiction and non-fiction titles. However, those most frequently mentioned are as follows in the order of preference:

Song of Bernadette
The Robe
Too Small a World
Jane Eyre
The World, The Flesh and Father Smith
Scarlet Lily
Family That Overtook Christ
Man Who Got Even With God
No Other Man
The Green Years

Wuthering Heights
Mass of Brother Michel
Our Hearts Were Young and Gay
Tale of Two Cities
Life of All Living
Brave Men
Gall and Honey
G. K. Chesterton
Rose Unpetalled
As the Morning Rising
White Noon
Mr. Blue

and there are many other titles less numerous mentioned. It is gratifying to note that most of the books listed are good Catholic books.

For the sixth question, "When books have no direct bearing on the class work, do you prefer to make your own choice to that of being held to a list?" One hundred and fourteen, a large majority, prefer to make their own choice and only thirty-nine, or about one-fourth of those who answered the question, like to choose from a list. The reasons given by those who prefer their own choice:

Seniors: "Like to use own judgment"
 "Others select one I want to read and I get caught with some bit of nonsense"
 "Limited to particular type"
 Juniors: "Lists do not include all tastes"
 "Hold one opinion"
 "Capable of choosing good books myself"
 Sophomores: "Don't enjoy as much"
 "Have read a good number of them before"

Of the twenty-five Freshmen who give a reason pro or con, twenty-one say, "Prefer my own choice", others, "List is too restricted"

Those who like a list say:

Seniors: "List has good selections"
 Juniors: "I like to get advice"
 "Instructors have better sense of value"
 "It helps when you don't know the line"
 Sophomores: "Lists usually include selected best books"

To the seventh question, "Do you use the library for other reading than reserves and withdrawals? Approximately how many hours per week do you spend on the following: Newspapers, periodicals, reference books, browsing?" Regarding the reading of newspapers, the range is from one-half to seven hours a week; with one hour high. In periodical reading, the range is from one-half to six hours a week; with one hour again high. Regarding reference books, judging from the answers given, they evidently included reserve-book reading here. Again on a weekly basis, the range is one to fifteen hours per week, with ten hours high for seniors, one hour high for juniors, five to six hours high for sophomores, and three hours high for freshmen. In browsing, the range is from one to five hours a week; with one hour high for all groups.

Under "Remarks" the following statements were submitted:

Seniors: "Would like to read more unassigned books, if I had time, but assigned reading and lessons constitute the greater part of my reading."

"I love books and I read more in high school. Here I very seldom have time."

"In high school I found books in general much more interesting. Since I have been in college so many books have been assigned that it seems I am in such a rush to take notes on them, I cannot enjoy them."

Juniors: "Not enough time to do pleasure reading."

"A set of encyclopedias would be appreciated in Residence Hall—perhaps some of the duplicates."

Sophomores: "Would like to do much more reading on subjects of general interest, but find little time to do so."

- Freshmen: "Lack of time."
 "I think the library has an excellent atmosphere for study."
 "I hope to develop my reading during college — neglected in high school."
 "I like the library, but there should be more books on the reserve shelf for required reading."
 "I enjoy every minute I spend in our library."
 "I wish I had read more or could read more in the future."
 "In regard to non-assigned reading, in the future my work in college will probably warrant more required reading and less non-assigned reading."

To summarize the findings of the questionnaire, the majority of students read approximately ten books last year. The majority say that their reading of books does not increase with the years in college. For a large majority, their reading includes some recreational material, and the majority like fiction for non-assigned reading, although non-fiction is a close second — one hundred and forty-three against one hundred and twenty-eight respectively. Again a large majority prefer to choose their own books rather than be held to a list when the books have no direct bearing on the class work. For other than book reading, they spend approximately one hour a week on each: newspapers, periodicals, and browsing; on reference books, the seniors spend an average of ten hours; juniors, one hour; sophomores, five to six hours; and freshmen, three hours a week. According to their own figures, the mean average in book reading per student per year for 1944-1945 is 16.8 books. But since the freshmen were then in high school and should not be included in reading statistics at the College of Saint Francis, the average mean for the upper classmen per

capita for 1944-1945 is eleven books. In calculating this average the two hundred and fifty books given by one senior was not included, as that figure seems highly improbable, judging from past case history records of reading.

Statistics on reading of individual students were kept by the library over a period of six years 1936-1942, and the peak in withdrawals for the six years occurred in 1940-1941, when one student withdrew one hundred and forty-five books. Another student in the same year withdrew one hundred and twenty-five books. Peaks for other years were: one hundred and twenty-two books in 1937-1938; one hundred and nine in 1938-1939; and ninety-nine in 1939-1940. For the other years the peaks were in the eighties and seventies. 1940-1941 gave us the largest number of readers above seventy withdrawals, viz., ten. The number above seventy withdrawals in other years were two or three, so the two hundred and fifty books named by one student does not seem probable.

In spite of these high withdrawals by a few students, there were always some students who withdrew no books, and many others who withdrew only a few books, so that the averages for these years were considerably less. The "Librarian's Annual Report" for 1944-1945, indicates that the average withdrawals per person were 20.9. The annual averages per person over a period of nine years from 1937-1945 range from 14.1 for 1943-1944, which was the lowest average, to 43.3 for 1942-1943, which was the highest average within that time. The general average for the nine-year period is 26.17 books per student.

These averages per capita for 1944-1945, 20.9, and for previous years, even the lowest of them, 14.1, are all higher

than the average obtained from the questionnaire, viz., eleven books per student per year. This difference may be due to the fact that many withdrawals from the library are read only in part, while the number of books the students gave on the questionnaire represent, no doubt, the books they actually read through.

Based on questionnaire figures, the average withdrawals per person for a two-months' period of this year is 2.7; while the average per person according to our circulation record for the same two-months' period is 6.47—again the difference; 6.47 bodes a higher circulation record for this year than last year.

In an effort to co-ordinate more effectively college libraries with the educational and recreational programs of colleges, the Association of American Colleges organized a study in 1937, known as "The Library Project". The outcome of this project is contained in the book, previously mentioned, *Teaching with Books* by Dr. Harvie Branscomb, Director of Libraries at Duke University, and also director of this project. The chapter on "How Much Do Undergraduates Use the Library?" gives the results of various studies which we shall use by way of comparison with this study.

These studies indicate that the average circulation statistics in college libraries reach but twelve books per capita per year. Comparing this figure with the circulation statistics at Saint Francis over a period of nine years in which 14.1 is the lowest average, 43.3 the highest, and in which 26.17 is the general average per person for the nine-year period, Saint Francis circulation is considerably higher than average.

Doctor Branscomb arrives at the figure twelve books per capita by taking the average of seven studies on college read-

ing. These studies are as follows: The Waples study, covering thirty-five colleges, average student reading, 11.1; the McDiarmid, covering seven undergraduate liberal arts colleges, in which the average student reading is 13.86; the Johnson study, covering five colleges, average reading, 11.36. In college "B" the average reading is 10.4. These colleges have enrollments of less than one thousand students. In the study of a university with two thousand two hundred and ninety-two undergraduates, the average withdrawals are 12.64. Another study, known as the Eurich study of the university of Minnesota, with an enrollment of eight thousand three hundred and sixty-two students, the average withdrawals in the general college are 11.8 books per student per year. And in the Dr. Ralph H. Parker study of the circulation of the University of Texas, the average withdrawals for the academic year is 10.28 books per capita.

Doctor Branscomb says that while the general reading average of these studies, viz., twelve books, is appallingly low, the studies show a considerable variation in institutions. And then goes on to point out a number of institutions which he says because of their method in teaching have a higher circulation record and are doing a better job in education. Among these are Southwestern, a four-year liberal arts college of Memphis, Tennessee. This college inaugurated a system of tutorial courses for all students above freshman level. The circulation record here shows a range from 45.92 to 78.86 per student per year. Antioch College adopted the autonomous plan in which an effort is made to shift responsibility from teacher to student, the basis of which is a carefully prepared syllabus. The student proceeds independently with a flexible plan

of course instruction, and optional attendance at classes. Advanced students prepare their own syllabus and take the whole initiative. For a period of ten years at this college the average charges range from 22.28 to 66.14. Lawrence College, over a period of four years, shows averages from 21 to 43.4 withdrawals. This school also adopted the tutorial plan.

While, as stated before, our average at Saint Francis over a period of nine years, 26.17, is considerably higher than the average of these studies, viz., twelve withdrawals; and while our highest averages per year was 43.3, we have never reached the high circulation records of Southwestern or of Antioch College, 78.86 and 66.14 respectively. Yet there is a striking resemblance between our figures and that of Lawrence College, the third school named by Dr. Branscomb as outstanding in circulation. Their highest figure is 43.4 and ours, 43.3.

There is this, too, to take into consideration, a library with closed stacks is able to count every book used; on the other hand, one with open stacks such as that of Saint Francis, with books easily accessible to students, a reading room where books are in constant use from the open shelves, there is a large percentage of use for which there is no statistical record. The actual circulation statistics may be lower in such a library but the use greater than in one with closed stacks. Then again who can measure the stimulating or awakening power of many other aspects of library activity which can never be recorded, as browsing at the periodical rack, the perusal of an exhibit of books, or the examination of a shelf of new or old books. These things defy measurements. No one can estimate the value of reading even one or two significant

books, taken from a display, and read in the library without charging, which otherwise a student may not have seen.

Then there are the reserve books, still used considerably at Saint Francis, although some educators today feel that this method is no longer satisfactory; as they say, that if education means an awakening, the student must do more for himself. At the present time, because the depression days, the heyday of student assistants, are no more, we keep no record of the reserve book reading. But for the two years in which we kept such a record, 1935-1937, the average use was one hundred and eight and eighty-eight books per student respectively; and we believe it would be every bit as high and even higher today. Much of the reading done by the students is reserve book reading; in fact, for a few students, it is, no doubt, the only reading. However, those who favor greater independence on the part of the student, say that frequently assignments in reserve book reading repeat each other, or repeat the class lecture, and that unless sections read have some specific contribution to make to the course of study, such requirements may involve loss of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the student. On the other hand, a reserve book collection has its values, the chief of which is the time saved for the student who is sure to read material that correlates and clarifies the class lecture.

In connection with one of the studies in *Teaching with Books* this statement is made, "I have met a surprisingly large number of intelligent students who have expressed the opinion that required reading is an overworked fad of the present generation of teachers". From certain remarks on the questionnaire regarding lack

(Continued on page 303)

The Catholic Parish Library, A Powerhouse

By SISTER M. AQUINA, O.P.

St. Dominic's School, Portland, Oregon

"Catholics do not read" is an accusation often heard. To a great extent the statement is true. But shall we sit down and lament and bewail this sad fact? Action speaks louder than words; and an offensive is the best defensive. The writer knows from her own experience that something can be done. Therefore, she offers the line of action which she adopted, as a suggestion to those who are interested in creating a good Catholic reading public. Here is what was done at Holy Rosary parish, Portland, Oregon.

The pastor of the parish, Reverend Joseph M. Agius, O.P., requested the librarian of Immaculata Academy, Portland, to form a parish library which was to serve not only the parishioners of Holy Rosary, but anyone who wished to use the library. The project was placed under the auspices of the Third Order of Saint Dominic in Portland in order to secure more permanency for the enterprise. As it is hoped, there will always be a Third Order in Portland, but there might not always be a "library-minded" pastor.

The proposal for the establishment of the library was made in February, 1943. Working with enthusiasm and energy, the librarian and two volunteer assistants organized the library so swiftly that by the third week of April, 1943, the Opening Day could be proclaimed.

Let us see what picture the Catholic Lending Library presented on that Third

Sunday of April, 1943. Located in the parish school building, it occupies on the first floor a large corner room. The strategic location of the room allows one to enter it directly from the street. Hence it is a unit, separate from the school, still enjoying the advantages of the school building. The school auditorium, which is also used for activities of the parish, is closely adjoining the library. So the latter can never be ignored. It is in the way of everyone going to the auditorium for a game, a play, or a dance, etc. Moreover, the Church is across the street from the school, and thus the library is in the field of vision of the good church-goers. There are quite a few possibilities for exploitation in this situation.

To furnish this room for a library, without too much expense, required some ingenuity. The pastor asked a carpenter who lived in the parish to build, during his evenings off, book shelves according to standard measurements. The zealous pastor assiduously helped the carpenter in the task of getting the shelves ready for use. A large rectangular table and eight or ten chairs, found somewhere among the school's antique-treasures and polished up for new service, filled the middle of the room. In the corner by the entrance door was placed a second-hand, but well preserved, charging desk. Between the two double French windows of the east side there stood on a small

table the precious card catalog with author, title, and subject cards.

Of course, the very best things in the library are the books. They must be carefully selected by the librarian: books of fiction, biography, and travel literature, plus a good representation of books in subject fields of current interest. Readers should be "attracted" to the library in order to build up a clientele; and there is no use offering them any books, even the finest and best, if the content or style is beyond their comprehension. For a beginning, give them a fare to which they are accustomed, though that should always be a healthy one. When confidence is established between the library and the customers; when the librarian has learned to know her people, then the real and magnificent work of a Catholic library can commence, namely, to cultivate the readers' taste, so that they can receive stronger—in time, entirely Catholic—fare in books.

The chief work of the Catholic library should be the noble one of education, but education in the Catholic philosophy of life. Most of our books of today are pagan. So is our whole culture, to a large extent. Read our present-day books and see in how many of them life is on a supernatural plane. We seem to be crass materialists judging by our literature.

Literature is a reflection of life. There you are. And why are our Catholic reviewers so often at each other's throats, to the bewilderment of the readers? Before there can ever be an objective judgment on the moral and literary values of a book, principles must be held up before our eyes, unchangeable principles, by which a book can be evaluated, from a moral point of view first, and then from a standpoint of literature. Of course, we

do have clear moral principles which remain the same forever; but their application, even by the theologians, is not always clear. We are in dire need of a book, which explains these principles practically and shows their application by illustrations. There will always be the subjective judgment of a book, which is a matter between the soul and God and can be handled only by the priest in the confessional. Whatever is an occasion of sin to us must be avoided. However, what may be a danger for one, may not be so for another. But beyond these subjective judgments there are *objective* standards on which a general judgment, applicable to normal circumstances, can be made. And it is these standards that need elucidation and uniformity of form. This is a necessary spade-work for our whole Catholic book selection field. We librarians would end in a madhouse if we tried to conform to everyone's ideas and dictates in our book selection. Let those who have a "right" to dictate, agree; and we shall be glad to follow.

All books in Holy Rosary library, about four hundred and fifty on the day of opening, were accessioned, classified, and catalogued. The Dewey system was used in classification. Almost all of the books had on their charming jackets. At the end of a shelf, where there is normally an empty space to provide for the fitting in of the new books with a minimum of reshelfing, some books were presented for display, faced toward the prospective reader. This method of having particular books catch the customer's eye, has become one of the strongest aids in "selling" books to the reader. Human nature is attracted by the odd or the exceptional. Most libraries use jackets for advertising purposes. But it is much more effective to leave the jackets around the books on

the shelves and, thus, influence the clients by something more substantial than an empty jacket or a cut-out picture. By all means leave the jackets on the books in the library. How colorful a picture such a library presents. It has the gay appearance of a book store at Christmas time. Our generation needs color. They are raised on all the hues of the rainbow: in the home, in the school, and in the fields of the world. To offer such people, who have drunk in color from the moment they opened their eyes in their mothers' arms, the drab-looking books found on so many library shelves is defeating our purpose of enticing them to love books. When people do not like the appearance of a book, they will not even touch the book, much less open and read it. Publishers are vying with each other to clothe their publications in artistically beautiful dress. We must be aware of the necessity of attracting our readers by beauty of format so that the content, for which we selected the book, will have a chance to be consumed and digested.

The library hours of the Catholic Lending Library were on Sunday mornings from 9:00 A. M. to 1:15 P. M., and on Wednesday evenings, from 7:00 to 9:00 P. M. Under the guidance of the librarian from Immaculata Academy, several Third Order members, volunteers, had been trained in library work. A Library Committee was formed at a Third Order Meeting. This committee, after considering the capable women recently trained for the work, appointed as chief librarian a Catholic young woman of the parish, who is a public school teacher. She is an intelligent person of discriminating judgment, she possesses a sound Catholic philosophy of life, she

knows how to get along with people, and she is very willing and obliging with regard to the work in the library. Her home is quite near the school, which circumstance facilitates her supervision of the library. For two and a half years, in spite of her heavy program in the school service and the management of her home where a brother and sister depend on her, she has fulfilled the duties of a librarian most loyally and efficiently without any financial remuneration. Her example of unselfish devotedness to a good cause has set the standard for the high type of service rendered in the library by all its personnel. There never has been any dearth of helpers, since the inspiring example of the chief librarian quickened the spirit of all. In the establishment of a parish library very much depends on the staff. The librarians have to make use of the material in the library in order "to bring good books and readers happily together", as a library science teacher at Rosary College, River Forest, Illinois, emphasizes in her classes of library service to children. Therefore, it is all-important that the librarians or assistants in a parish library be exceptionally capable and fit personalities for the work of Catholic education that goes on in a Catholic library.

Membership fee and rental fee were kept very low, according to the pastor's wish, so that no one would be prevented from joining the library because of financial reasons. The cost of a membership card was only twenty-five cents. This card, of blue color, was at the same time the borrower's card. At the top of the card was the borrower's registered number, name, and address. Under this heading were four columns, marked: *Due: Returned: Due: Returned:* For each

book drawn out, the borrower's card received a date stamp, under *Due*; and on return of the book a stamp under *Returned*. When in use, the borrower's card was put in the pocket of the book; otherwise it was arranged in the alphabetical borrower's file. The main file of book cards, kept in a drawer of the charging desk, was a date-due file. The rental fee was five cents for a book per week. A fine of two cents per day was charged for overdue books. The few library rules were printed on the book pocket. The Masters Engravers Printing Company in Portland sells book pockets with these rules printed on the face of the pocket for the moderate price of \$1.70 per five hundred. The book cards used were plain white cards, 3x5. In the left-hand corner of each card was typed the call number of the book, below and more centered, the author's last name and beneath the name the title of the book, in the right-hand corner, the accession number. The pocket bore at the left top corner the call number, at the right the accession number. This practice makes it easy to identify the correct book card when the returned book is made ready for shelving.

During the two and one half years of its existence the library has grown in every way. Membership rose from seventy members on the first day to nearly three hundred. Holy Rosary is a small parish when measured in numbers. There are less than 600 families. New books were constantly added by purchase and gifts. The gift volumes were thoroughly scrutinized and had to conform to the standards of the library to win a place on the shelves. The donors themselves can only respect such practice. From the second year on spiritual books and books of Catholic information were emphasized

in the book selection. The pastor himself, who is the Director of the Third Order and the instructor of converts in the parish, is responsible for the growth of this section. The books in this corner of the library are becoming increasingly popular. The readers of Holy Rosary like spiritual reading. The book must not be heavy, but devotional. Dom Marmion, Leen, Kienberger, Kearney, Graef, McAstocker, Houselander are authors of that type of spiritual literature which is popular in the library. All in all, the book collection has grown to over 1700 volumes. Lately, the better-known Catholic magazines have been made accessible in the library. Shelves were built under the windows which are all on the east side. The top of the long shelves slant with a ridge in front to hold the magazines. The latest magazines are displayed on top. The preceding issues of the current year are on the second shelf. The lowest shelf, which is very deep, offers ample room for several years' issues. Only Catholic magazines are kept in the library, since the secular ones can be obtained from any newsstand, whilst the Catholic ones are not so easily available in Portland.

The physical aspect of the library improved also during the years. A new charging desk, made to order and specially designed to meet the needs of the library, graces the corner at the entrance. The old desk was moved to the rear near a supply closet. It serves there the cataloger and typist, developing into a cataloguing cubicle. Four new, readers' tables replaced the one large antique table. Other worthwhile additions are: a new lighting system, a new heating apparatus, Venetian blinds for the windows, blue

(Concluded on page 303)

Catholic Commercial Publishing in the United States

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(Continued from the April issue)

QUALITATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The foregoing summary of the quantitative aspects of the publications issued by Catholic firms leads to the question: How significant have these publications been? What contribution have Catholic publishers made to the field of Catholic letters?

Unfortunately, no objective standards for evaluating that intangible characteristic, the quality of a book, have yet been devised, nor are such standards imminent or even possible. The subjective judgment of the expert and the specialist will always be the ultimate authority by which the value of a literary composition will be appraised. However, the judgment of the expert has been given objectivity in a number of devices which can be employed as approximate gauges of the worth-whileness of literary productions. Among such devices may be mentioned standard book lists which are the consensus of experts, and book reviews which are the expression of the judgment of specialists. In this study three devices were used in an attempt to appraise the contribution of the Catholic publishers under consideration: (1) a comparison between the number of titles of prominent Catholic authors published by Catholic firms and those published by other domestic firms, (2) a comparison between the number of publications by Catholic firms and those by other domestic firms

chosen as the monthly selections of the Catholic Book Club, Incorporated, and (3) the book reviews printed in Catholic journals.

A Comparison of the Titles of Prominent Catholic Authors Published by Catholic Firms with Those Published by Secular Firms

If it is true as Burton Roscoe has said that "publishers are as dependent upon authors and the authors' annual crop of books as Mr. Campbell is upon the farmers and their annual crop of bean",⁸ so it is likewise true that the frequency with which a prominent author submits a manuscript to a given publisher and enters into a contract with him for its publication is a measure of that publisher's ability to market his commodity. In fact, publishers frequently advertise their prestige by printing lists of recognized authors whose manuscripts they handle.

In 1932 there was initiated a bio-bibliographical undertaking known as the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors, the primary purpose of which is to promote the recognition of living Catholic authors and their works, and to establish an international clearing house of biographical and bibliographical information on all noteworthy contemporary Catholic

8. Burton Roscoe, "What's Wrong with Publishers!" *Saturday Review of Literature*, XXIII (November 2, 1940), 3.

writers of whatever nationality.⁹ To date, some three hundred American and non-American authors have been admitted to membership.¹⁰ This roster, the most distinguished list of contemporary Catholic authors, was used as a gauge of the effectiveness of Catholic publishers in securing the manuscripts of prominent Catholic authors.

One hundred and five citizens or residents of the United States who are members of the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors published a total of 210 titles during the years 1940 to 1942.¹¹ The ratio between the number of publications of these authors issued by the Catholic firms and the number of the publications of these authors issued by the secular firms during the three years chosen as a sample was used as an index of the contribution of the Catholic publishers in the field of Catholic literature.

Table 5 shows the distribution of these 210 titles into three groups of publishers: (1) The Catholic publishers considered in this study, (2) all other American Catholic publishers, and (3) secular publishers. The Catholic firms under consideration in this study published sixty-four titles by "Gallery" authors, while secular firms published 105 titles by these authors, a ratio of approximately two to three. On the basis of the publishers selected by the "Gallery" authors, the Catholic publishers under consideration here made a smaller contribution to the field of Catholic literature than did the secular publishers. If the "Gallery" titles of all Catholic publishers are compared with the "Gallery" titles of the secular publishers, the ratio is exactly one to one, each group contributing 105 titles.

Table 5 also exhibits the distribution of the "Gallery" titles by subject. Exami-

TABLE 5
NUMBER OF TITLES BY "GALLERY" AUTHORS PUBLISHED BY
THREE GROUPS OF PUBLISHERS FROM 1940 TO 1942

Subjects	Titles of "Gallery" Authors Published by Catholic Firms Included in This Study, 1940-42	Titles of "Gallery" Authors Published by Other Catholic Firms, 1940-42	Titles of "Gallery" Authors Published by Secular Firms, 1940-42	Total
Philosophy, Ethics	2	3	1	6
Religion, Theology	35	18	21	74
Sociology, Economics	5	6	7	18
Education	1	1	—	2
Philology	—	—	1	1
General Literature	3	3	2	8
Poetry, Drama	5	3	12	20
Fiction	4	3	29	36
Juvenile Literature	—	2	14	16
History	4	2	12	14
Geography, Travel	1	—	1	1
Biography	4	—	5	9
Total	64	41	105	210
Percentage	30	20	50	100

9. "The Gallery of Living Catholic Authors," *Catholic Bookman*, III (January-February, 1940), 68.

10. "Members of Gallery of Living Catholic Authors," *National Catholic Almanac*, XXXVIII (1944), 445-47.

11. These data were determined by checking the list of members of the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors against *The Guide to Catholic Literature*, Vol. II (1940-1944), ed. by W. Romig (Detroit: Walter Romig & Company, 1944).

TABLE 6
DISTRIBUTION BY PUBLISHER OF THE SIXTY-FOUR "GALLERY" TITLES
ISSUED BY THE CATHOLIC FIRMS FROM 1940 TO 1942

Publisher	Number of "Gallery" Titles Published, 1940-1942
Sheed & Ward	18
Bruce	12
Kenedy	10
St. Anthony Guild	10
America	5
Herder	5
Wagner	2
Benziger	1
Devin-Adair	1
Total.....	64

nation of columns two and four gives evidence that the authors preferred the Catholic publishers for religious titles, and the secular publishers for Poetry and Drama, Fiction, Juvenile Literature, and History. In other fields the numbers are too small to have significance.

The sixty-four titles issued by the Catholic firms were distributed according to the issuing publisher, giving the enumeration recorded in Table 6. From these statistics it is apparent that fifty titles, or approximately four-fifths of the total, were published by four firms: Sheed and Ward, Bruce, Kenedy, and St. Anthony Guild. The remaining one-fifth, comprising fourteen titles, was issued by five firms: America, Herder, Wagner, Benziger, and Devin-Adair.

A Comparison of the Titles of Catholic Publishers and the Titles of Secular Publishers Chosen as the Monthly Selection of the Catholic Book Club

A second device used in appraising the contribution of Catholic publishers was the monthly selections of the Catholic Book Club, Incorporated. This club was organized in 1928 as a constructive effort

... to stimulate our Catholic authors, and to enlist our Catholic people in the support of this better literature. It aims to place Catholic literature on a par with the very best reading of the day; in other words, to secure an increased sale and interest in good Catholic

books, and to encourage Catholic writers by providing a public for Catholic work of real literary quality.¹²

The book-of-the-month is chosen by a board of five editors from manuscripts and galley proofs of Catholic authors submitted by both Catholic and secular publishers. The editors aim to select the most important, the most interesting, and the most literary production of the current month by a Catholic author or in keeping with Catholic principles. Purely devotional books are not eligible for selection.

The representation of titles by Catholic publishers in the monthly selections of the Catholic Book Club may be considered an index of the contribution of Catholic publishers to the field of current popular Catholic literature. The selections of the club for the years 1930 to 1942 were analyzed according to subject and publisher,¹³ with the results exhibited in Table 7. Publishers and subjects omitted from this tabulation were not represented in the selections.

Inspection of the table shows that of the 168 titles chosen as books-of-the-month 129 titles, or seventy-seven per cent, were selected from the output of the general

12. Quoted in "With Scrip and Staff", *America*, XXXIX (May 12, 1928), 114.

13. Data for this tabulation were furnished by Mr. Sterna Cunningham, director of the Catholic Book Club, Inc.

TABLE 7
NUMBER OF TITLES BY THREE GROUPS OF PUBLISHERS REPRESENTED
IN SELECTIONS OF THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB, INC., 1930-1942

Subjects	Catholic Publishers Included In This Study							Other Catholic Publishers	General Publishers	Total
	America	Benziger	Bruce	Devin-Adair	Kenedy	Sheed & Ward	Total			
Philosophy, Ethics	---	---	---	---	---	8	11	2	2	2
Religion, Theology	1	1	1	---	---	1	4	---	38	51
Sociology, Economics	---	---	2	1	---	---	---	---	3	7
Fine Arts	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	2
General Literature	---	---	1	---	---	1	2	---	4	6
Poetry, Drama	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	6	7
Fiction	---	1	---	---	---	4	5	---	41	46
History	---	---	1	---	---	1	2	---	6	8
Geography, Travel	1	---	---	---	1	---	2	2	5	9
Biography	---	2	2	1	1	2	8	---	22	30
Total	2	4	7	2	2	18	34	5	129	168
Percentage							20	3	77	100

publishers, thirty-four titles, or twenty per cent, were selected from the output of Catholic publishers considered in this study, and five titles, or three per cent, were chosen from other Catholic publishers. Roughly, the ratio of representation of the general publishers to the Catholic publishers under consideration was four to one. The table also discloses the fact that six Catholic publishers were represented in the books-of-the-month: America, Benziger, Bruce, Devin-Adair, Kenedy, and Sheed and Ward. Of these, Sheed and Ward had not only the highest frequency, eighteen, but contributed more than all the other publishers combined. Bruce had the second highest frequency, with a contribution of seven titles.

Using the monthly selections of the Catholic Book Club for a period of twelve years as an index, one found that the Catholic publishers made an appreciably smaller contribution to the field of cur-

rent popular Catholic literature than did the general publishers. It is not surprising that in the fields of fiction and biography the general publishers greatly outnumbered the Catholic publishers; it is surprising that even in the field of religion the former made a considerably greater contribution than the latter. We have seen that doctrinal theology and devotional literature are two of the largest groups of religious publications of the Catholic firms. Many titles in the first category are not sufficiently popular in character to warrant being chosen as the book-of-the-month, and titles in the second category are not considered for selection. Doubtless, this fact partially explains the low representation of the product of Catholic publishers among the religious titles chosen as books-of-the-month.

The Book Review as a Measuring Device for Catholic Publications

The third device used to evaluate the contribution of Catholic publishers was

the book review. This method of appraising the effectiveness of a title has been used before. In 1939 Dr. Robert Frederick Lane devised this technique in an attempt to estimate the quality of American university press publications. Says Dr. Lane:

As indexes of the quality of publications, reviews are highly regarded because they reflect expert opinion. The reliance placed upon such compilations as the *Book Review Digest* by book users and by book purchasers is generally recognized. The academic world also estimates the success or importance of its published contributions in terms of reviews received. Book sales are said to bear some relation to review notices, and recently the university presses complained that the slowness of learned journals in carrying reviews warranted the development of a speedier reviewing medium . . .

The review, therefore, seems to provide the most acceptable, the most immediate, the most representative, and the most available means of determining the quality of book titles.¹⁴

The extent to which the titles of Catholic publishers were reviewed in twenty-six of the most prominent and scholarly Catholic periodicals during a two-year period, 1940-1941, was used as a criterion for appraising the quality of these titles. The writer is aware that factors other than the importance or general excellence of a work, such as a publisher's policy in distributing review copies of his titles, may exert a measure of influence upon the amount of book reviewing attention accorded to a given title or a specific publisher. However, that there is an approximate relationship between the importance of a title and the reviews it receives cannot be denied. Important contributions inevitably attract notice.

All of the journals selected were Catholic and American. Included were general periodicals such as *America*, *Commonweal*, and *Catholic World*, and periodicals representing special subject fields, such as *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, *Mid-America*, and *Review of Politics*. It is believed that no important Catholic periodical published in America, carrying book reviews in sufficient number to be of value in this study, was omitted. The book reviews in all of the issues of these periodicals were checked for the years 1940 and 1941 to ascertain the number of reviews accorded to titles of Catholic publishers.

Dr. Lane's study contained an analysis of reviews of American publications in sixty-eight selected English and American periodicals during 1935 to 1937. His findings demonstrated that the book reviewing attention accorded to all domestic publishers was distributed among the three large divisions of knowledge into which he classified all titles, humanities, social sciences, and sciences, in the ratio of one to one to one.¹⁵ The book reviewing attention of the Catholic periodicals accorded to titles by Catholic publishers was roughly grouped among these three divisions in the ratio of five to one to zero. The humanities, including religion, received 836 reviews, social sciences 166 reviews, and science no reviews. Religion with 628, accounted for three-fourths of all the reviews in the humanities and over one-half of all the reviews in all subjects; philosophy and ethics with sixty-one reviews, general literature with fifty-one, and history with thirty-four accounted for three-fourths of the remainder of the reviews received by the humanities. In the social sciences, sociology and economics

14. Robert Frederick Lane, "The Place of American University Presses in Publishing" (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1939), pp. 121-22.

15. Lane, *op. cit.*, p. 129.

with 144 reviews accounted for ninety per cent of all reviews in this field, leaving ten per cent for education and miscellaneous titles.

In summary, it may be stated that the subjects which received the greatest amount of reviewing attention in the Catholic journals were religion, the social sciences, philosophy, general literature, and history. To these may be added fiction and juvenile works which received thirty-seven and thirty-one reviews respectively. If it be admitted that reviews are an index of the importance of a title, then the Catholic publishers made by far their most significant contribution in the field of religion—a contention borne out by every aspect of this study. Following this subject at a remote distance were the social sciences, philosophy, general literature, history, fiction, and juvenile works, all of which combined received less than half the reviewing attention given to religion. Furthermore, if the incidence of book reviews be accepted as a criterion of the importance of a publication, the Catholic firms made no significant contribution to any of the branches of science.

An analysis by publisher of the reviews of the 1940 titles of the Catholic firms disclosed the relative effectiveness of each publisher in the field of Catholic literature. The findings of this analysis may be summarized as follows:

1. In most cases there was a high positive relationship between the number of titles a publisher issued and the number of reviews he received.

2. Bruce and Sheed and Ward had the largest output and received the most reviews. Hence, it seems correct to say that they made the greatest contributions to the field of Catholic literature. Sheed and Ward titles were more successful in attracting reviews than Bruce titles.

3. Kenedy and Herder had appreciably smaller outputs than Bruce and Sheed and Ward, but had a higher average per title effectiveness as measured by reviews per title. The former are probably more conservative publishers and are willing to take fewer risks than the latter.

4. Wagner, America Press, Pustet, and Romig issued five or less titles in 1940. As measured by the number of reviews per title, they were all moderately effective contributions to Catholic publishing.

5. The remaining publishers made little contributions to Catholic publishing in 1940.

The over-all implication of the results of the application of the three measuring sticks was the superiority of the general publishers over the Catholic publishers in the production of effective and successful Catholic literature.

CONCLUSIONS

The foregoing summary of specific findings permits several generalizations. In spite of the weaknesses of the Catholic publishing program, the Catholic publishers have succeeded in bringing into print an impressive and commendable corpus of religious literature which would otherwise have been unavailable to American Catholics. Secular publishers are understandably not concerned with these scholarly theological treatises, both English originals and translations. English translations of outstanding European classics in theological literature, which houses such as Herder and Benziger have introduced into this country, constitute in themselves a subject worthy of serious study. His Excellency, Giovanni Cardinal Mercati, Librarian and Archivist of the Holy Roman Church, has stated that the products of Catholic thought of Europe make a notable contribution to American culture and should be encour-

aged through translation by publisher, reviewer and librarian.¹⁶ Nor can the secular firms be expected to promote the publication of the devotional literature which is intended to quicken the spiritual life of both clergy and laity. The contribution of the Catholic publisher in making this literature easily accessible is inestimable.

This very strength of the Catholic publisher, based as it is on the unity and universality of Catholic belief, is the source of his greatest weakness—his failure to contribute in a vital manner to the intellectual, social, and political life of twentieth century America. The *Bible*, the *Missal*, the *Breviary*, the *Imitation of Christ*, the *Baltimore Catechism*, Gibbon's *Faith of Our Fathers*, and numerous other long-established texts have been the stable commodity of many of the Catholic firms for decades. The remuneration from these standard classics, widely distributed as they are in Catholic seminaries, schools, and households throughout the land, has given to the Catholic publisher a measure of economic security, but not a financial independence sufficiently adequate to encourage him to undertake in a more extensive and dynamic way the presentation of the many problems of the twentieth century. If the Catholic publisher is to be an effective force in molding American thought of the present day, he must break away from his traditional policy of conservatism, and risk a more diversified repertoire of seasonable subjects. Several titles which have emanated from Catholic publishing houses within recent years are a healthy indication that a more progressive trend has been initiated. The favorable reviews in both Catholic and secular jour-

nals accorded to such publications as Christopher Dawson's *The Judgment of the Nations* (Sheed, 1942), Guido Gonella's *A World to Reconstruct*; Pius XII on *Peace and Reconstruction* (Bruce, 1944), Max Jordan's *Beyond All Fronts, a Bystander's Notes on This Thirty Years' War* (Bruce, 1944), Jacques Maritain's *The Twilight of Civilization* (Sheed, 1943), the William J. Kerby Foundation's *Democracy: Should it Survive?* and Yves Simon's *The Road to Vichy, 1918-1938* (Sheed, 1942) should be a source of encouragement to all Catholic publishers. Four of the titles cited, as well as numerous other examples which might be mentioned, are the products of foreign authors. The Catholic publishers deserve highest commendation for making this European literature easily available for American consumption. Meanwhile they should seize in a more virile way the opportunity of presenting established and potential American Catholic writers to an American reading public.

Mr. Frank Bruce of the Bruce Publishing Company has recently expressed the necessity of seeking new authors and promoting new talent in these words:

Formerly Catholic book-buying was confined almost exclusively to the clergy. The layman's entrance into the field, even though in itself gratifying, has introduced a new and somewhat disturbing element—the increased demand requires stepped-up production but unfortunately, a noticeable poverty of Catholic writers hinders production. This situation exists because we have made no conscious effort to discover ability and then because we have never faced the obvious truth that writing is a difficult chore which requires many things besides the subsidy of a religious community.¹⁷

The time has come when Catholic publishers must make strong efforts to search out native ability and to demonstrate to

16. Igino Giordani, "An Address to the Catholic Library Association", *Catholic Library World*, X (October, 1938), 54.

17. "Calling Catholic Authors", *Between the Lines*, III (Spring, 1945), 2.

potential American Catholic writers, especially among the laity, the compatibility between the pursuit of letters and the securing of a substantial livelihood.

That the secular publishers have succeeded in attracting a not insignificant share of the manuscripts of Catholic authors has been pointed out statistically in the preceding pages if the members of the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors be accepted as a representative sample of contemporary Catholic writers, and if the selections of the Catholic Book Club be regarded as a reliable sample of current Catholic titles. It is probably a safe assumption to attribute the failure of the Catholic publishers to attract these manuscripts at least partially to the absence of a vigorous advertising program and schedule of sale promotion. A goodly number of these publications is of a sufficiently general nature to arouse interest outside a Catholic reading public, for example, Paul Furfey's *History of Social Thought* (Macmillan, 1942), Carlton J. Hayes' *Generation of Materialism, 1871-1900* (Harper, 1941), Ferdinand Hermen's *Tyrant's War and the People's Peace* (University of Chicago, 1944), John La Farge's *Race Question and the Negro* (Longmans, 1943), Jacques Maritain's *Education at the Crossroads* (Yale University, 1943), and Francis Meehan's *Living Upstairs, Reading for Pleasure and Profit* (Dutton, 1942). In the interviews with the representatives of the several Catholic firms, the writer discovered that few of these publishers advertise their publications in secular media. The fact that Catholic authors submit the manuscripts which they believe suitable for general consumption to a secular publisher whose sales promotion program includes advertisement in secular as well

as religious media is thoroughly understandable. Until Catholic publishers promote a wider reading public by a more extensive advertising and sales promotions program, they will continue to forfeit many of the timely manuscripts of Catholic authors, whether clerical or lay.

Finally, it is not an uncommon practice for Catholic publishers to undertake to be publishers, retail booksellers, and dealers in religious goods simultaneously. This threefold sphere of activity is the natural outgrowth of enterprises which for decades have handled the printed page as only one of several commodities. Such dispersion of interest and energy over an area broad enough to include church furnishing, liturgical vestments, and religious articles has inevitably weakened the concentration necessary for pursuing a dynamic publishing program, and has seriously handicapped Catholic firms in their competition with the secular publishers.

The implications for future development and expansion in Catholic publishing which these deficiencies indicate may be succinctly summarized:

1. A more vital and aggressive participation in the production of books on the current problems of the day.
2. A sustained program of advertising and promotion to assure authors of at least as wide a reading public and an equal number of sales as they reach through secular publishers.
3. Greater effort to improve the general format of books.
4. A conscious attempt to discover new talent and to promote new authors, chiefly American.
5. Concentration of energy and ability on the publication and distribution of books.

"Pray to God and Ply the Hammer"¹

By SISTER M. EONE, O.S.F., Librarian
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During the current year librarians have noted with approval the many activities of President Ralph Ulveling of the American Library Association in the promotion of its membership. Both by speeches and articles Mr. Ulveling has been working to strengthen the A.L.A. and thereby to make libraries a stronger force in the lives of Americans. Since all would agree that such effort is commendable, it must also be admitted that the Catholic Library Association is in even greater need of added support. We do indeed believe with the Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., that "the library is perhaps the most important instrument for promoting the intellectual apostolate among Catholics". But we cannot expect that a national organization employing only an executive secretary with limited clerical assistance will be able to exert a sufficiently powerful influence in the field of Catholic culture. That so much has been accomplished is due, of course, to the sacrifice of Catholic librarians all over the country and to both paid and volunteer workers at C.L.A. headquarters.

It has been estimated that there should be at least five thousand members of the C.L.A. if all colleges, high schools, and some elementary schools were affiliated; such a situation would make it possible to set up a central office adequately staffed. Professional tools now awaiting development or completion would be

ample to engage the energies of a larger office force. Among other aids we need a Catholic supplement to the *Children's Catalog*, a booklist for college libraries, a handbook for parish libraries, a booklist for the Catholic school of nursing, and a similar guide for the patients' library. Although work on some of these projects may have been started by various individuals or groups within the association, how much the burden would be lightened and these matters expedited to have assistance available at national headquarters! Ideally, such a set-up would also include persons having as a major responsibility, publicity on a national scale and the recruitment of new members.

But since that condition does not obtain at present, it follows that the work of making the C.L.A. better known and thus more adequately supported must rest largely with the individual members. We know that each of us, no matter how unfamed, is of importance in his own circle; that each has a duty to do as much as he can of what needs doing. It is true that we may consider others to be better qualified or more experienced but there is work for all. This, then, is the conviction that has prompted me to gather together some material on the subject. These publicity means will be considered in the following order: activities open to the individual librarian, some possible to use at institutes or unit meetings, opportunities of diocesan chairmen, and lastly,

1. Cervantes, *Don Quixote*. Pt.I, Ch. 35.

a few projects that have been or might be feasible at the national level.

Many of the promotional devices practiced in Catholic libraries are familiar. We can display C.L.A. publications, demonstrate their use, recommend their purchase. We can mention them in conversation, in book talks, and at faculty meetings. We can utilize booklists, newspapers, and the radio. We can explain the objectives of the C.L.A. orally or by letter to those who should belong. In their contact with Catholic lay librarians, religious have an opportunity to invite them to participate in local Catholic library activities, to attend unit meetings or to write for the *Catholic Library World*.

Co-operation with diocesan, unit, or national C.L.A. projects is not only our opportunity but our duty. It is obvious that the success of Catholic Book Week depends heavily upon individual librarians; the poster and slogan contests are announced and we must act. Although assistance is given by the national, unit, or city chairmen and material is offered by publishers, much is left to our own initiative and industry.

As it requires no authorization to hold a local institute, this means of spreading the C.L.A. message may be used by many. For present purposes the more elaborate types of institutes will not be considered; instead we shall describe, as an example, the one-day institute held last July at the College of Saint Teresa. A date was selected during the summer session which is attended largely by Sisters. Lay students of the college, local alumnae, interested clergy, religious, and lay people of the city were also invited. Since all speakers were resident of Winona, no expense was incurred.

The program follows:

Morning Session: Books for Catholic Adults

"Parish Libraries." Gwendeline Miller, Assistant Librarian, College of Saint Teresa.

"Catholic Reading Circles." Mrs. W. W. Thein, Deanery Chairman of Libraries and Literature, Winona Council of Catholic Women.

"Books for the Sick." Irene Garrigan, Winona Public Library.

Afternoon Session:

"The Catholic Library Association." The Reverend Max Satory, Librarian, Saint Mary's College, Winona, Minnesota.

"Censorship and the Selection of Books." Brother Luke, Assistant Librarian, Saint Mary's College, Winona, Minnesota.

"The Catholic Elementary School Library." Sister M. Wilfrid, O.S.F., Principal, Saint Peter's School, North Saint Paul, Minnesota.

"Old and New Books for Children." Sister M. Eone, O.S.F.

Because a course in book selection for the high school library was being taught at the time, emphasis was placed primarily on the elementary school library. Two further reasons supported this decision: the larger number of Sisters teaching at that level and the greater need of the grade school libraries for development. Not only were the last two talks on that subject but all the exhibits were of children's books. Recommended children's booklists were displayed and distributed.

The purpose of the three papers on books for Catholic adults was not only to encourage lay activity but also to familiarize the Sisters with these projects so that such ideas might be spread throughout the schools. Of special importance was the speech on the Catholic Library Association, in which Father Satory outlined the achievements of the C.L.A., particularly the *Catholic Periodical Index* and the *Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Li-*

braries. It was pointed out that a *Catholic Supplement* to the *Children's Catalog* was equally needed but that such tools were the fruit of co-operative effort. Therefore, Catholic elementary schools should be members of the C.L.A. and should participate in its activities. The paper on censorship and book selection included discussion of the *Index* and principles governing classes of works not specifically named therein. Not only was the paper of value in itself, but its subject served to attract to the session persons who might not have attended.

Tangible results of the Institute were stimulation of interest in Catholic library activities and new memberships in the C.L.A. Obviously, several hundred Sister principals, teachers, and teacher-librarians had an experience very comparable to attendance at a unit convention. The C.L.A. gained in prestige with the staff of the local public library, and other lay persons were made further aware of the organization and of its publications.

The chairman of a local institute finds his task simplified by being able to call upon speakers who are at hand and who may have papers previously given at unit conventions. Since the audience is on the campus and does not need to be attracted from afar, publicity is also a lighter task. The unit chairman, however, finds himself faced with greater problems but with larger opportunities. If the unit is state-wide or even a combination of states, as is the Minnesota-Dakota Unit, the newly-elected chairman may well be doubtful of his ability to provide adequate publicity for the coming meeting. If there is a unit publicity chairman, he should ideally reside in the same city as the chairman so that conferences may be held by telephone. In common

with other conventions the persons in charge must see that all available mediums carry stories before and after the meeting. At least two releases before the event, a general announcement followed later by the complete program, will be acceptable to newspapers especially if it be a matter of local interest in each area from which representatives attend. To secure speakers from all sections from which delegates are to be attracted is, of course, one way of meeting this problem. Post-convention publicity can often be prepared in advance and submitted promptly after the event with final details added. To the chairman also belongs the duty of encouraging speakers to edit their papers for submission to the *Catholic Library World*.

At the meeting itself a prominent desk should be provided for the receiving of C.L.A. memberships and renewals. Publications of the association should be on display in the near vicinity.

Most units have a small registration fee sufficient to cover expenses but wherever possible surplus funds should be sent to the national office as a contributing or sustaining membership for the group.

A few units have succeeded in distributing their own printed or mimeographed publications. Undoubtedly such bulletins can do much to further activities of the C.L.A. Schools should, however, subscribe to both the unit publication and the C.L.W.

In handling convention publicity the burden is lightened and the work more effectively accomplished if there are diocesan chairmen to serve as auxiliaries to the unit chairman. Last fall, for example, there were very frequent releases in the La Crosse, Wisconsin, *Register* regarding Catholic library activities. These

were issued jointly by the diocesan chairman of the C.L.A. and the chairman of libraries and literature of the Council of Catholic Women. Co-operation of C.L.A. officers with officials of the National Council of Catholic Women has already been established in many areas but can be further developed to mutual benefit. Chairmen of libraries and literature of the N.C.C.W. are often women untrained in library work and grateful for the help given by professional librarians; these persons are decidedly potential members of the C.L.A. One such lay woman recently wrote expressing deep appreciation of the C.L.W.; many too have found *Best Sellers* a solution to book selection difficulties.

In co-operation with the N.C.C.W. and other interested groups the diocesan chairman can promote Catholic Book Week observance, arrange for book fairs, institutes, lectures; assist in the establishment of parish libraries or Catholic bookshelves in public libraries; and advise Catholic reading circles. Such activities may then lead to the formation of diocesan units like that of the Diocese of Scranton. It would seem that this is much to be desired because state units are often too large for effective work.

Even if the diocesan chairman were membership chairman for the area or if he appointed that official, it might also be well to engage a religious of each Order active in the diocese to take care of the matter in the schools operated by members of his community.

Having considered what one may do as individual librarian, director of an institute, and unit or diocesan chairman, perhaps a word might be added about publicizing the C.L.A. on a national scale. We have recently seen an excellent piece

of work in advertising National Catholic Book Week by the 1945 Chairman, Brother J. Sylvester, F.S.C. The series of articles in *The Faculty Adviser* by the past president of the C.L.A., the Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., is another case in point, for not only were Catholic library activities promoted but the articles drew attention to the C.L.A. itself.

It is, doubtless, too sanguine to hope for such affluence as to permit of a full-time national publicity chairman, but it may be that someone otherwise engaged might be prevailed upon to accept the post. Perhaps that matter will be discussed at the 1946 annual meeting, which is in itself, of course, a powerful publicity force. It might be less difficult to establish a syndicated book column under the auspices of the C.L.A. One recalls that *Spirit* recently gained considerable attention by a similar device.

The feasibility of any of these projects is naturally limited by various local conditions. However, each librarian will find certain opportunities open to himself. Surely, all of us know one or more persons who would benefit by C.L.A. membership. As an expression of gratitude to the pioneers of the Catholic library movement to whom we owe so much, let us make the effort to interest others in the work initiated and developed by them. With an adequate membership C.L.A. projects could be supported in the measure they deserve and we could have the tools we greatly need. Furthermore, we would help to insure to our successors the advantages of a strong, central Catholic library agency. It seems apparent, therefore, that all of us as individual members of the C.L.A. must assume leadership in at least limited degree if our national organization is to succeed in propagating Catholic thought.

The Family: An Annotated Reading List

By REVEREND VINCENT DIECKMAN, O.F.M.

Duns Scotus College Library
Detroit, Michigan

In recent years a large volume of literature has been published on marriage and the family from the Catholic viewpoint. Too many of these books and pamphlets remain unknown to Catholic students and laity. It is in the hope of making some of this material better known that this brief bibliography has been prepared. Librarians may find it handy when readers ask for suggestions. The list in mimeograph booklet form was distributed to members of the Michigan Unit in April.

The aim of the compiler was to propose publications that stress the positive approach to problems of family life. Hence, books devoted chiefly to treatment of appalling current social evils are omitted. Likewise, more scholarly and thoroughgoing treatises are excluded except in one instance. Titles were selected that are more likely to inspire the reader and develop in him a deeper and richer Catholic insight.

With one exception, all selections are comparatively inexpensive and most of them are fairly recent publications. Although the masterly Encyclical of Pope Pius XI *On Christian Marriage* is not included, still the spirit of *Casti Connubii* permeates the list. The brief annotations are intended to be descriptive, not critical. Two very recent periodicals are added as a supplement.

Aloysius, Father, O.F.M.Cap. *The Catholic Home*. Cork. Mercier Press, 1945. \$1.75.

The author, a Capuchin missionary in Ireland, speaks frankly of almost every problem that faces the young married couple. Written for married people, the book makes many practical suggestions to remedy dangers arising from within and from without. Heartily recommended.

Bruckner, Paul J. *How to Give Sex Instructions*. The Queen's Work, 1944. \$0.25.

In its eighth printing, this guide for parents, teachers and others responsible for the training of young people is the answer to: "Isn't there some Catholic book of this subject?" Easy style, vivid comparisons, practical examples, all go to make this inexpensive booklet a valuable asset in any Catholic home.

Delany, Selden P. *Married Saints*. Longmans, 1935. \$2.00.

Chesterton once said, "A saint is a man who is very much like the rest of us—only very different". This book illustrates the point. That sanctity can be reached in the marriage state is proven in these sketches of some twenty men and women either canonized or proposed for canonization. An arresting volume.

Doonan, Grace. *Just Happy*. St. Anthony Guild Press, 1946. \$1.00.

Mrs. Doonan, who writes her latest book under the pseudonym of Grace Keon, portrays the story of a lovable American family. It is a book for grown-ups, because of its telling presentation of an ideal Catholic family; for children, because it touches their interests closely. All will enjoy it.

Gartland, Frank E. *Boy Meets Girl, the Christian Way*. Our Sunday Visitor, 1941. \$0.10.

Courtship and marriage are the subject matter of this pamphlet. It will hold the attention of modern young people who might be impatient with a longer book. Provocative reading for the young.

Hildebrand, Dietrich von. *Marriage*. Longmans, 1942. \$1.25.

Appealing to the general public, the author lays stress on the primary meaning of marriage: conjugal love. This two-chapter book is very readable and will serve as a powerful antidote against the bad influence of many secular books and articles dealing with the sacred subject of matrimony.

Hope, Wingfield (pseud.) *Life Together*. Sheed, 1943. \$2.50.

Under a trinity division of Christian life, relationship between husband and wife, problems of sex, this inspiring book presents marriage as God intended it. Deals with the facts of life in a tone both frank and spiritual. Strongly recommended to married people and couples about to marry.

Husslein, Joseph, co-author and editor. *The Golden Years*. Bruce, 1945. \$1.75.

Written in somewhat belated collaboration with a "wife, mother and apostle of Christian charity", Father Husslein depicts anew the story of the Holy Family in refreshing fashion. Catholic families have here the latest representation of the Ideal Family. An inspiring volume, recommend to all.

King, J. Leycester. *Sex Enlightenment and the Catholic*. London, Burns, Oates, 1944. \$1.75.

A positive contribution to the always difficult, but not impossible, question of presenting the facts of life to the young. Pertinent papal pronouncements are cited and application of general principles set down. Popular in appeal, Catholic parents will find this book very practical in helping them to answer the child's curious questions on sexual matters.

Leclercq, Jacques. *Marriage and the Family*. Pustet, 1945. \$4.50.

The second edition of Leclercq's work is a reprint, with but two small additions, of the

1941 imprint which was exhausted within three months. It is primarily a study in social philosophy, not in sociology, and covers the field in a thorough-going fashion. Highly recommended for college libraries.

Meyer, Fulgence. *Helps to Purity*. St. Francis Book Shop, 1927. \$0.75.

Intended to acquaint adolescent girls with sex matters, this companion volume to *Safeguards of Chastity*, is even more timely now than when it was published. Mothers will find the book helpful in discharging one of their responsibilities: reasonably and modestly enlightening their daughters with the mysteries of life.

Meyer, Fulgence. *Plain Talks on Marriage*. St. Francis Book Shop, 1927. \$1.00. (Paper, \$0.30)

More than 125,000 copies sold—such is the record of Father Meyer's masterpiece. Pertinent points are proposed in a plain and reverent manner. Many pastors give a copy of this book to every couple about to marry in their church. Heartily recommended for married people and those approaching matrimony.

Meyer, Fulgence. *Safeguards of Chastity*. St. Francis Book Shop, 1929. \$0.75.

Sub-title reads: A frank yet reverent instruction on the intimate matters of personal life for young men. This little volume will prove very beneficial in helping the teen-age boy solve many problems of his private life.

National Catholic Welfare Conference. Family Life Bureau. *The Family Today, a Catholic Appraisal*. 1944 (volume I); *The Family Faces Forward*. 1945 (volume II). The Conference. \$1.00 per volume.

This publication consists of the papers read by various authors at the Conference on the Family held since 1944 at the Catholic University of America. The annual volumes bring together the best current Catholic thought on the family.

National Catholic Welfare Conference. Family Life Bureau. *Population: Facts and Factors*. *Parent Education: Through*

Home and School. Toward a Better Family Life: Problems and Program of Action. 1946. The Conference.

The Conference on the Family of 1946 will issue three booklets listed above. First of these pamphlets: \$0.25; the other two, \$0.35.

National Catholic Welfare Conference. The Youth Department. *Youth and the Catholic Ideals of Marriage.* The Conference, 1944. \$0.15.

This title embodies the papers read at the Youth Sessions of the Catholic Life Conference held at Catholic University in 1944. Author of each article is a student in a Catholic college so the book reports strictly the viewpoint of youth. Refreshing reading and full of surprises.

Pius XII, Pope. *The Holy Father Speaks to Newlyweds.* N.C.W.C., Family Life Bureau, 1943. \$0.25.

A series of talks to newly married couples received in audience by Pope Pius XII during 1940. Informal in approach, these short addresses reflect the mind of the reigning Pontiff and the Church on marriage and family life. Suggested as a suitable gift to couples about to marry.

Schmiedeler, Edgar. *Marriage and the Family.* McGraw-Hill, 1946. \$1.80.

Pre-publication notice says this title will be issued in May. It is the first Catholic high school text book in the field applying the Christian viewpoint to problems of the modern family. Richly illustrated, the forthcoming volume is presented simply and understandably in language suited to the high school student. This book should have a hearty reception in all Catholic secondary schools.

Strub, Celestine. *The Christian Home.* Franciscan Herald Press, 1938. \$1.00.

The 1934 paper-bound edition was so well received that the publishers reprinted the title in more permanent and attractive form. The author applies the principles of the Encyclicals of Pope Pius XI to married life quite informally. A book that has a place in every Catholic home.

Vermeersch, Arthur. *What Is Marriage?* America Press, 1932. \$0.12.

A booklet in question and answer form drawn from material in the Encyclical *Casti Conubii*. Already in its third printing this pamphlet serves as a ready guide to the Encyclical and is suited to teachers and parents.

Wayne, T. G. (pseud.) *Morals and Marriage.* Longmans, 1943. \$1.50.

Originally published in 1936, this slim volume is packed with meaty information on the subject of sex. The special merit of this Catholic background to sex is that it puts sex in its right place from the social, religious and psychological point of view. It is a popular treatise, theologically sound and one of the best books in its field. Recommended to parents and to young men and women contemplating marriage.

Rawe, John C. *Reading to Save the Home.* The Queen's Work, 1941. \$0.10.

A compilation of practical pamphlet literature on successful home life. Covering a wide field the bibliography lists several hundred publications under eighteen headings. All Catholic libraries should have a few copies on hand.

PERIODICALS

Catholic Youth; published by Catholic Youth, 128 East Tenth Street, St. Paul 1, Minnesota. Monthly except August and September. \$1.50.

This long desired magazine made its bow in October, 1945. Father Louis Gales, the editor, has presented an attractive thirty-two-page publication. High school libraries particularly should subscribe to this periodical.

The Family Digest. Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Indiana. Monthly. \$2.00.

Successor to *The Catholic Family Monthly*, this forty-eight-page periodical reprints not only "family" articles from other publications but also presents original write-ups characterized by brevity, timeliness and verve. In an entertaining style, *The Family Digest* puts across age-old lessons and very cleverly applies Alexander Pope's dictum: "Men must be taught as if you taught them not". Heartily recommended to all schools and private homes.

Catholic Periodical Index

FINANCIAL REPORT

FRANK J. DANAHAR
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
75 WEST STREET, NEW YORK

The Catholic Periodical Index
Manhattan College
New York, N. Y.
Gentlemen:

April 10, 1946

I have made an examination of your books and accounting records for the period July 1, 1944 through March 31, 1946.

In connection with the examination, all disbursements were checked with cancelled checks returned by the bank and with supporting bills and petty cash vouchers. All receipts as recorded in the cash receipts book were checked for deposit with the bank. The receipts recorded on the subscription cards were checked in detail with the cash receipts book for the period February 1, 1945 through March 31, 1946 and test checked for the period July 1, 1944 through January 31, 1945.

Following is a summary of subscriptions at March 31, 1946:

	H. W. Wilson Co.	C.P.I.	Unpaid	Totals
Volume 3 (1930-1933)	\$ 10.25	\$ 215.30		\$ 225.55
Volume 5 (1943)	5.00			5.00
Volume 6 (1939-1943)	5.60	4,645.80	\$ 138.20	4,789.60
Volume 7 (1944)	3,529.00	995.85	118.00	4,642.85
Volume 8 (1945)	2,620.50	6,583.60	188.75	9,392.85
Volume 9 (1946)		8,763.00	782.00	9,545.00
Volume 10 (1947)		16.00		16.00
	<u>\$6,170.35</u>	<u>\$21,219.55</u>	<u>\$1,226.95</u>	<u>\$28,616.85</u>

Payments received by The Catholic Periodical Index for Volume 9 (1946) covers subscription periods as follows:

Subscriptions Applicable to Issues Sept. and Dec. 1945.....	\$2,747.50
Subscriptions Applicable to Issues Mar. and June, 1946.....	2,747.50
Subscriptions Applicable to Issues Mar., June, Sept. and Dec., 1946.....	3,268.00
	<u>\$8,763.00</u>

Payments applied to Volume 10 (1947) of \$16.00 represent overpayments made by subscribers on current subscriptions.

The amount of \$6,170.35 indicated as paid to H. W. Wilson & Co. was compiled from notations on the subscription cards on file at your office. No verification of this item was made with H. W. Wilson & Co.

Submitted herewith is a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the period July 1, 1944 through March 31, 1946 as shown by the records examined. The receipt of \$7.08 from Bosak State Bank, Scranton, Pa., represents a final dividend of \$5.84 per cent paid to depositors of the bank.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANK J. DANAHAR

THE CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS—JULY 1, 1944 THROUGH MARCH 31, 1946

Receipts

Received from Subscribers:

Volume 3	\$ 215.30	
Volume 6	4,645.80	
Volume 7	995.85	
Volume 8	6,583.60	
Volume 9	8,763.00	
Volume 10	16.00	\$21,219.55

Other Receipts:

Bosak State Bank, Scranton, Pa.	\$ 7.08	
Unrecorded Receipts	5.69	12.77

Total Receipts		\$21,232.32
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Disbursements

Editorial Salaries—Lawrence A. Leavey:

July 1, 1944-June 30, 1945	\$2,000.00	
July 1, 1945-March 31, 1946	2,250.00	
Balance Due on Salary for period July 1, 1943-June 30, 1944 (paid Sept. 1, 1944)	425.00	\$ 4,675.00

Clerical Salaries:

Full Time Assistants	\$ 840.00	
Part Time Assistants	528.19	1,368.19

Printing and Binding:

650 Copies Sept. 1944 Issue	\$ 336.00	
650 Copies Dec. 1944 Issue	561.00	
650 Copies March 1945 Issue	504.00	
750 Copies July 1944-June 1945 Cum. Vol.	2,468.00	
650 Copies Sept. 1945 Issue	676.00	
650 Copies Dec. 1945 Issue	843.00	5,388.00

Mailing Expenses:

Sept. 1944 Issue	\$ 41.35	
Dec. 1944 Issue	31.96	
March 1945 Issue	25.15	
July 1944-June 1945 Cum. Vol.	116.49	
Sept. 1945 Issue	48.67	
Dec. 1945 Issue	16.73	280.35

Linotype Metal:

1050 lbs. Sept. 8, 1944	\$ 122.06	
2123 lbs. March 19, 1945	246.80	
1000 lbs. Aug. 29, 1945	116.24	
1010 lbs. Oct. 10, 1945	118.58	
733 lbs. Feb. 28, 1946	84.30	
600 lbs. Spacing Leads Feb. 28, 1946	108.00	
2 Fonts Linotype Mats with Sorts—Feb. 28, 1946	400.00	1,195.98

Forward	\$12,907.52	\$21,232.32
Office Supplies and Stationery	77.73	
Telephone	41.37	
Typewriter Rental	32.10	
Typewriter Repair	18.50	
Typewriter Stand	8.59	
Office Lamp	13.57	
Express Charges	1.82	
Postage	107.31	
Miscellaneous Printing	63.72	
Moving Expense	44.42	
Carefare	11.20	
Convention Expense—St. Louis	200.00	
Total Disbursements		<u>13,527.85</u>
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements.....		<u>\$ 7,704.47</u>
Cash Reconciliation		
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements.....		<u>\$ 7,704.47</u>
Bank Balance—March 31, 1946—Corn Exchange Bank Trust Company.....	\$ 7,724.47	
Less: Check No. 148—Outstanding	30.00	
	<u>\$ 7,694.47</u>	
Add: Cash on Hand as at March 31, 1946.....	10.00	<u>\$ 7,704.47</u>

News and Notes

ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE

The Twentieth Annual Conference of the Catholic Library Association was held in St. Louis, Missouri, April 23-25, at the Kiel Auditorium. Approximately 169 delegates registered for the conference.

The complete proceedings will be published in the next volume of the *Catholic Library World*.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY APPOINTED

Mr. Laurence A. Leavey, Editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index*, was appointed by the Executive Council to the office of Executive Secretary of the Catholic Library Association and Editor of the *Catholic Library World*. National headquarters will be transferred from the University of Scranton to Manhattan College, New York City, temporarily. Permanent offices will be opened in New York City at a later date. After June 10th, all membership renewals and official correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Leavey at Manhattan College.

RESOLUTIONS

By vote of the Executive Council the following resolutions were approved and read to the members at the general luncheon on Thursday:

A Resolution thanking the President of the University of Scranton and the Brother Visitor of the Christian Brothers of the Maryland Province for the courtesy and co-operation extended to the Asso-

ciation during the eight years that the University provided office space, equipment and personnel for the business of the central office; A Resolution thanking Sister St. Magdalen for her work as chairman of the Committee for Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries.

Citations to Mr. Eugene P. Willging, Librarian of the University of Scranton, and Miss Dorothy E. Lynn, Assistant Librarian, granting life membership in the Association in recognition of their work as Secretary-Treasurer of the Association and Editor of the *Catholic Library World*. Mr. Willging held the two offices from 1938-1942; Miss Lynn succeeded Mr. Willging, 1942-1946.

The Resolutions thanking all who had participated in arrangements for the annual conference were prepared by the Resolutions Committee and read at the Second General Session on Thursday. The Association expressed its gratitude to His Excellency, Bishop Donnelly, to Miss Eleanora Baer and the local committee of the Greater St. Louis Unit, to the National Catholic Educational Association; to the chairmen and speakers at the various meetings and round tables; to the Jesuits of St. Louis University; to Mr. Charles H. Compton and the staff of the Saint Louis Public Library, and to the various Religious Communities who extended hospitality to the delegates.

A resolution was also made to follow the suggestion made at the Round Table on Cataloging and Classification, viz: that every Catholic librarian make an effort to place an order with the A.L.A. for the new translation of the *Vatican Norme* and thus insure its publication.

Members of the Resolutions Committee were: Sister M. Abigail, S.S.J., Sister M. Frances, O.S.U., and Sister Mary Alice, O.P.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Announcement was made at the general business session of the appointment of the following committee chairmen:

Reverend William J. Gibbons, S.J., Associate Editor of *America*, chairman of the Committee on the *Catholic Supplement to the Standard Catalog for High School Libraries*.

Sister M. Fides, S.S.N.D., Catholic University of America, chairman of the Committee on the Catholic Children's Catalog.

Sister M. Luella, O.P., Rosary College, Editor of the Catholic Reading List for the 1946 Catholic Book Week observance.

The Committee on Committees and Special Projects and the Committee on Defense Activities were discontinued.

AFFILIATION WITH A.L.A.

The question of affiliation of the Catholic Library Association with the American Library Association was discussed by the Executive Council and presented for the first time to the members of the Association at the second general session, preliminary to the mailing of ballots for a vote of the entire membership on the question.

BOOK SURVEY RESUMED

The Cardinal Hayes Literature Committee has been reorganized and Rt. Rev.

John J. Hartigan, president of Cathedral College, New York, has been appointed chairman. Publication of the *Book Survey* will be resumed. The quarterly will review all serious publications in all fields. J. G. E. Hopkins, literary editor of *Columbia* and professor of English literature, College of Notre Dame, Staten Island, will edit the publication. Dr. Blanche Mary Kelly and Dorothy Bryan are on the staff.

REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

The Executive Board of the National Catholic Educational Association recently appointed a Sub-Committee to make a study of the problems and plans concerning the rehabilitation of Catholic educational institutions in the war-devastated nations. The study was to be made in co-operation with the Catholic Library Association and the Bishop's War Emergency and Relief Committee, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

A meeting held on March 21st, at the headquarters of the N.C.W.C. in Washington was attended by the following: Rev. John Clifford, S.J., Chairman; Rt. Rev. Msgr. Howard J. Carroll; Very Rev. Msgr. Philip Furlong; Rev. John J. Cava-

The retiring Editor expresses to the Administrators of the University of Scranton, to the members of the Catholic Library Association, to the contributors to the *Catholic Library World*, to advertisers and to publishers, her sincere appreciation for the co-operation received during the past four years.

DOROTHY E. LYNN

naugh, C.S.C.; Rev. James J. Kortendick, S.S., Catholic Library Association; Mr. Edmund O'Connor of the War Relief Service, N.C.W.C.; Mr. James Cummings, N.C.E.A.; Rev. William McManus, Education Department, N.C.W.C. The problems of determining need, co-operating with other agencies, collecting and distributing library materials and school supplies were discussed at length. A series of recommendations and suggested plans were drawn up and submitted to the Executive Council of N.C.E.A.

C.L.A. UNITS

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY

The New York-New Jersey Unit of the Catholic Library Association met at Villa Maria Academy, Country Club Road, Saturday, March 30th.

Sister St. Margaret of the Angels, C.N.D., principal of the Academy, addressed the group on "Reading for Culture". Sister defined culture as "something as indefinable yet as definitely felt as personality . . . a refinement of mind, manner and morals . . . the ultimate goal of education. Sister deplored the fact that in our hurried generation too few read with the mind and the imagination; too few utilize adequately the imponderable tools which authors have bequeathed to posterity. For the very practical problem of promoting the cultural growth of students, Sister St. Margaret advises an indirect, implied, oblique approach, and recommends the suggestion of Professors Center and Persons of the New York University Reading Clinic, that all teachers should become expert in the art of reading aloud.

Miss Dorothy E. Cook, on the editorial staff of the H. W. Wilson Company's

Standard Catalog series and indexing services, spoke on "Bibliographical Values". Sketching briefly the history of the H. W. Wilson Company, Miss Cook explained its two unique policies, the cumulative plan of indexing, and the service basis of payment. She described the genesis of the Wilson catalog cards and the High School Catalog.

During the business meeting a Committee on the Constitution was formed. The draft will be presented for consideration at the next meeting.

Sister Miriam Dorothy, S.C., librarian of Blessed Sacrament High School, was chosen to represent the Unit at the national conference in St. Louis.

PHILADELPHIA

The annual Spring meeting of the Philadelphia Area Unit of the Catholic Library Association was held at Immaculata College on Sunday afternoon, April 28th.

The new Unit Constitution was adopted by the group.

The speaker of the afternoon was the Rev. John W. Simons, Saint Thomas More High School, who presented, "A Non-Librarian's Counsel to Librarians".

Reverend Richard J. Walsh, Librarian of Roman Catholic High School, was re-elected chairman of the Unit for a two-year term.

MICHIGAN

The Michigan Unit met at Mercy College, Detroit, on April 28th.

Brother A. Thomas, F.S.C., Vice President of the Catholic Library Association, was the guest speaker. His topic was: "The Librarian's Place in the Post-war World".

Copies of the annotated reading list on the Family, which appears in this issue, were distributed. The books were attractively displayed.

During the last two years the Unit membership has increased to seventy members.

Newly elected officers are: Chairman, Sister M. Malachi, O.P., librarian, Aquinas College, Grand Rapids; Vice-chairman, Rev. Ralph Koehler, O.S.B., librarian, Catholic Central High School, Detroit; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Mary Schutz, librarian, Van Antwerp Library, Detroit; Directors: Rev. Daniel M. O'Connell, S.J., librarian, University of Detroit, and Rev. Vincent Dieckman, O.F.M., librarian, Duns Scotus College, and retiring chairman of the Michigan Unit.

TEEN AGE BOOK SHOW

During Easter week, Trinity College, Library, Washington, D. C., was the scene of the first college-sponsored Teen Age Book Show in the country. The project originated by Pocket Books, Inc., though without any attempt to feature the publications of that firm, had test showings last winter in two or three cities, and has been successfully staged this year in several public library or school library systems in the larger cities.

The Trinity College showing was the first of its kind, in that, though college students planned the program and acted as hostesses, the book show centered around the teen-age girls and boys of the Washington Catholic high schools and academies. Features of the program were an exhibit of several hundred books of interest to senior high school students, a moving picture, starring Ralph Bellamy, entitled "It's All Yours", and an inspir-

ing address, "Read Today—Star Tomorrow", by Mr. Phillips Temple, librarian of Georgetown University Riggs Memorial Library. Each of the visitors to the show received a copy of the booklet prepared by Mary Gould Davis, of the Saturday Review of Literature, in which were listed and annotated many of the books on display.

The prize-winning entries in the essay and poster contests which had preceded the event, were on display. Students from the high schools crowded the Trinity College auditorium for the assembly program and were enthusiastic about the display of books. Their own school libraries and the Public Library of the District of Columbia, later reported numerous requests for the books, thus demonstrating that interest in books and reading had been definitely increased by the Book Show. The college students who acted as hostesses benefited in their knowledge of books and qualities of leadership.

OFFICE OF CARDINALS

Reprints of the History and Meaning of the Office of Cardinals as told in the *New York Herald Tribune*, February 17-22, by Reverend John La Farge, S.J., are available upon request to Meredith J. Bratton, Information Service, New York Herald Tribune, 230 West 41st Street, New York 18, N. Y.

PUBLIC RELATIONS CLINIC

A public relations clinic, sponsored by the A.L.A. Public Relations Committee and the A.L.A. Library Extension Division, is scheduled for the Buffalo Conference of the American Library Association. The clinic will meet daily from Monday, June 17 through Friday, June 21st, from 8:30-9:45 A. M. Each day's session is

planned to treat some phase of public relations or publicity. There will be a fee of \$2.50 for the series. Reservations, without money, should be sent as soon as possible to Harold Hamill, Chairman, A.L.A. Public Relations Committee, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

NOTICE

The central office of the Catholic Library Association will be transferred to Manhattan College, New York, after June 15th. All membership renewals and communications should be addressed to Mr. Laurence A. Leavey, Executive Secretary, Catholic Library Association, Manhattan College, 4513 Spuyten Duyvil Parkway, New York 63, N. Y.

HOW MUCH DO COLLEGE STUDENTS READ?

(Concluded from page 276)

of time, this is also the opinion of some of our students. Is required reading overworked? I leave that an open question. Certainly the library would be the last to discourage reading. And instructors can and should always promote reading by suggesting a good book they themselves have read. This method of suggestion will give the better students an opportunity to do some voluntary reading and at the same time will keep the mediocre students happy.

Educators are of the opinion today that fundamentally, students should do some free reading in the course of their college

career. For such reading has a more lasting and beneficial effect on the individual at the time and for the future. Nathaniel Stewart, in an article entitled "A Case History Approach to College Student Reading", (Wilson Bulletin, Nov. '42) says, "The function of a small liberal arts college is to assist in the awakening of the undergraduate . . . the most reliable measure of this awakening process is the extent and quality of free voluntary reading. . . ." And further, "Free reading activity serves as a valid indicator of the undergraduate's self-awakening, his intellectual curiosities, his academic influences, etc".

Perhaps nothing has a more abiding effect upon the individual than learning to live with books. If a student has acquired the habit of reading and appreciating good books and hence has a desire to read of her own volition the best that has been said and thought in the world of books, and has a desire to continue to do so after college days are over, if she has imbibed the Catholic philosophy of life found in good Catholic books while in college, she has come a long way toward becoming what her college wants her to become—an educated person.

THE CATHOLIC PARISH LIBRARY, A POWERHOUSE

(Concluded from page 280)

rayon drapes with tea-rose pattern covering the bleak empty spaces between the windows, two large linoleum carpets on the stone floor, a crucifix in the place of honor on the west wall, a few select pictures, some green fresh ferns on top of the shelves here and there.

The parish library of Holy Rosary in Portland, Oregon, is an attractive place for simple people of every day life.

Book Reviews

Treasure for the taking: a booklist for boys and girls. By Anne Thaxter Eaton. Viking, 1946. 249p. \$2.50.

Three years ago, librarians, parents and teachers examined *Reading with children*, by the librarian of the Lincoln School, Columbia University, and editor of the books-for-children page of the *New York Times Book Review*, and unanimously expressed their satisfaction at its content. If there has been any subsequent disappointment as they continued to use that book, the chances are good that the chief cause lay in the fact that only a few titles in each field could be mentioned, and only sixteen fields developed.

There comes from the press now an amplification of the various checklists which closed each chapter in the earlier book. In *Treasure for the taking*, seventy separate lists cover as many fields of interest for children from two years of age to fifteen. With subjects as broad as "history", "architecture", "pets", "all quarters of the globe", "personal records" and "poetry" on the one hand, and as restricted as "building model airplanes", "Christmas", "tall tales", "horses" and "plays to act" on the other, the lists vary in length from two titles each (e.g., architecture and pets) to around eighty (as in folk tales and wonder stories). For the most part, each list is prefaced by a sentence or two of comment on the field itself or its literature. Each title in the list is accompanied by the usual trade information, plus age of appeal, and by a note descriptive of contents, importance, format, or other phase which justifies its inclusion in the checklist. There is a general index as well.

The question will inevitably arise as to the purpose of such a compilation when the librarian has at her disposal far more comprehensive lists, such as the *Children's Catalog*. (In the first section of *Treasure for the taking*, for example, seven editions of *Mother Goose* are recommended; in the sixth edition of the *Children's Catalog*, and

its supplements, twenty-two are noted. Twice as many works on books and reading are to be found in the latter selection aid.) There is, of course, the matter of the relative price of the two lists. There is also the fact that Miss Eaton's list is addressed to the adults, parents chiefly, who buy books for children. And that adults are urged not only to provide books for the child's personal library but to share his reading with him. The work, therefore, makes a convenient and convincing point of attack when the librarian addresses mothers' clubs, parent-teacher associations and similar organizations, on the subject of children's reading.

The compiler warns her users that "any grading of books must be tentative". Hence at least a four-year span of interest is ordinarily noted. It is possible, however, that some users may be puzzled when for the same titles different age levels are indicated in different parts of the list. For instance, of the twenty-four titles listed under "A Few Present-Day Picture Books and Illustrated Editions", only fifteen have the identical age levels assigned elsewhere in the book. Thus Leslie Brooke's *Ring o' Roses*, scaled for years four to eight on page 211, is on page fourteen recommended for years two to seven. Aesop's *Fables*, illustrated by Artzybasheff, is in one place listed "for all ages" and in another for "age ten on". Moreover, almost all of the twenty-four titles were previously listed and described in the first section of the book, "Picture Books and Easy Reading", or in succeeding sections.

Some adults may be disturbed by an occasional choice of title. One wonders why, in so brief a list as the thirteen titles under "Novels Today and Yesterday", Rachel Field's *All This and Heaven, Too*, Oliver LaFarge's *Laughing Boy*, and Wilder's *Bridge of San Luis Rey*, should be recommended to twelve-to-fifteen-year olds. And how many of this group might better wait a few years before taking up Conrad's *Typhoon* and Melville's *Moby Dick*.

None of the books under "Bible and Bible Stories" could be used in a Catholic school. Under "Books about Religion", none is restricted to Catholicism or to Judaism, though two include those faiths in their general treatment. Likewise, in the section on the Middle Ages, an occasional title is unsuitable for Catholic children.

These lacks are more than compensated for in the breadth of selection represented and in the solid worth and discrimination shown in the majority of the titles. As a guide to purchase and to wide reading, either for the young reader himself or for his teachers and parents, the book is an excellent choice of the best books published for children up to and including the year 1945.

HELEN L. BUTLER, Ph.D.,
Marywood College

Library extension: problems and solutions. Papers presented before the Library Institute at the University of Chicago, August 21-26, 1944. Edited by Carleton B. Joeckel. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1946. 260p. \$3.00.

The theme of the Ninth Institute sponsored by the Graduate Library School is a particularly timely, and welcome one now that so many library agencies are surveying their field of operation and formulating their plans for future grappling with the great unfinished task of American librarianship. Dr. Joeckel at the outset defines Library Extension as "the provision of at least a minimum level of library service to all the people through a system of effective local units aided by state and federal auxiliary services". Unevenness in quantity and quality makes our library service at once the best and the worst in the world. The editor, who has long been concerned with this paradox, outlines and analyzes the statistical, historical and political factors which make for such wide differences in library leadership and progress throughout the United States. The many and wide gaps in public library service, the multiplicity of poorly qualified librarians, inadequate and poorly adapted book collections, and unequal distribution of financial support, all these are problems that are considered and for which solutions are suggested.

The first group of papers deals with organization of library service at the level of local government—city or town, county, rural areas, regions and state library service, and the second group of papers considers the problems of state and federal aid to libraries. Integrated with the papers on library topics by experienced librarians is a

parallel series of discussions of similar problems in the field of general government by specialists in various areas of public service. The librarians and specialists agree in the general conclusions that, first, the size of library service units should be increased and the number of separate units be correspondingly decreased to not more than one thousand for the whole country; second, the librarians should assume the initiative in advancing their plans for larger service units without waiting for the long needed reorganization and reconstruction of the local government pattern; third, that strong and effective state library agencies be created or improved to the extent that there will be sufficient state aid to insure a basic library program; and fourth, that through grants-in-aid by the federal government, a nationwide minimum level of library service be sustained.

The gain out of this symposium of political and social scientists with librarians has been to stress not the point of the difficulties to be encountered—which indeed all experts have noted—but rather the point that there can and should be something done about the library situation by co-ordinating and adapting already existing successful plans. Experts in other fields of public service have worked around and through complex government structures with a great measure of success. It is now up to librarians to push forward and do far more than has been done. The value of the symposium is further enhanced by a good index and an excellent selected reading list divided according to topic.

JAMES J. KORTENDICK, S.S.,
Catholic University of America

Magazines for school libraries. By Laura Katherine Martin. Wilson, 1946. 206p. \$1.90.

If anyone has a better right to be author of a book on magazines for schools we have yet to hear about it. The previous work, *Magazines for high schools*, was a contribution badly needed and Miss Martin has since added to her stature as an authority on this subject. The present volume, a revised and enlarged edition of the first, chalks up an even higher score for utility. As she so well reminds us, there are approximately 6000 magazines published in this country and there are two magazine readers for every book reader. We need to carefully winnow the wheat from the chaff—the result being an evaluation and description of some 300 titles.

The main body of the volume consists of charts and individual appraisal of magazines for the elementary and the secondary school. In Part I—elementary schools—we have the problem discussed in its many phases such as the need for better magazines for children, the pros and cons of comics, the criteria for selecting children's magazines, contemporary studies and individual appraisal of thirteen titles. For each title we are given the grade level of "E", "J" or "S" (on the secondary school charts) price, issued, established, circulation, page size, total pages, pages of advertising, paper, print, illustrations, name of editor, publisher and address. What more could one want. A lively and critical mind is at work in the individual appraisals which constitute in our estimation the main value of the work. What kind of a magazine is it, to whom will it appeal, how can it be used in a school? These are significant questions and Miss Martin provides the answers. In Part II—secondary magazines—we have a grouping of titles into twenty-four areas such as Agriculture and Pets, Handicrafts, Science, Woman's Fiction Magazines and World Today. We feel that the arrangement would have been stronger if either curricular subject headings or students' interests would have been used—the present scheme doesn't satisfy either. One hundred junior-senior magazines are given individual appraisal including sixty-one on the original list. It is interesting to note that only forty-four of Miss Martin's titles appear on the list of 114 current magazines listed in the Evaluative Criteria used to accredit schools in numerous states. When authorities differ what can the "ordinary" librarian do? The left-wingers are strong in this section with *Nation*, *New Republic*, *Tomorrow*, *New Masses* and *Soviet Russia Today* leading the Red parade. This plus such recommendations as the *New Yorker* makes us wonder if we are not "old-fashioned" in our ideas as to what and what-not to feed adolescent minds.

A bibliography contains general directories and lists, specific groups and types, articles on individual magazines, history of magazines, comments on magazines as reflections of American life, articles on magazines for elementary grades and studies of magazine use in secondary schools. Five Appendices present research studies of aviation and homemaking periodicals, the Tennessee Report on newspapers designed for classroom use and foreign magazines, periodical indexes and learning to use magazines, criteria for evaluating

magazines and representative magazine units from four high schools. Much valuable material is also presented in the Introduction in which is discussed the effects of wartime publishers' policies, recent trends in magazine use and personalizing magazines. This last is the alpha and omega of the librarian's work. Miss Frances Henne of the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, provides the Foreword.

It should be pointed out that the title of the work is misleading—it is *Magazines for the "average public school"*. We continue with the Introduction, "Vocational, technical and parochial schools . . . have unique needs never fully met by general aids . . ." In such a light-hearted manner the author and publisher discount some 2,600,000 American children in 12,727 private and parochial schools. We particularly regret this because Miss Martin had at hand the evaluation made of Catholic secondary school magazines by this reviewer—a survey which has stood up under the criticism of several later studies. And 80% of the private and parochial school population is Catholic. Within these limitations the work is highly recommended. Catholic librarians should use it—and they should resolve to make a parallel study of Catholic periodicals.

RICHARD J. HURLEY,
Education Division,
University of Nebraska

Books that girls will want to read. Houston, Texas, Incarnate Word Academy, 1946. 38p. \$0.60.

The booklists that tell the librarian, parent or bookseller just what the clientele think can be numbered on three fingers—or should we consider this a "thumb"? A few progressive libraries contain a drawer in the card catalog holding students' impressions of books read. There is the freshness of eternal youth blowing through such book selection media and in this particular one we find a Texan vigor and straightness to the point.

Approximately 250 titles are reviewed by students of the Incarnate Word Academy of Houston. They are arranged alphabetically by author followed by title, publisher and an annotation from one to nine lines long. Several supplementary groups are included—lives of saints, individual biography, biography, non-fiction books, keeping you on your toes socially and a handful of animal stories.

The "dear gentle reader" is told that the booklist has only one object—to help junior and senior high school girls find something to read. It does that with the wallop of a Texas tornado. The annotations written by the students will sell these books and we take the liberty of noting a few. For Benson's *Come rack! Come rope!* we are told "You have to make an effort to get into it". We will all agree to that. Crawford's *Saracinesca* is "Old as the hills but good love stories, with attention to plot—get you interested". Amen to that also. Gibbs' *Shirley Clayton, Secretary* has this comment: "Sophomores eat it up". An upperclassman probably wrote that. One more—Weil's *My dear Patsy*. "Cute story and has romance without the mush".

Like any booklist certain titles may be debatable as Cronin's *Keys to the kingdom* and Davis' *Stand fast and reply*. But that is the privilege of the compiler. We should say that complementary titles are listed in the annotations.

Certainly no girls school should be without this list—Catholic schools especially. Public librarians ought to have it at their elbow particularly for the "Young moderns" or "Teen-agers" rooms. The bookseller will find a few surprises. It is trite to say "required reading" but we really mean it. Buy your copy now!

RICHARD J. HURLEY,
Education Division,
University of Nebraska

A vocational guide for women. By L. Cornelius Longarzo. New York, Catholic Youth Organization of the Archdiocese of New York, 1945. 119p.

An index, bibliography and source book of women's occupations in the Bronx and Manhattan. A revised and enlarged edition which has been broadened in scope to include vocational guidance material and information on occupational groups and industries. 2879 industries, 82 occupational groups and 282 industries are represented.

The Guide is divided into five parts: Contents of a good occupational monograph; General occupational sources; Index of occupations and industries with selected references; Selected occupational references; Index of classified titles, industries, occupational groups, and selected cross references.

There is an introductory topical outline explaining the use of the Guide. A system of

Roman and Arabic numbering has been worked out to classify the different occupations and these numbers are cited after each reference in the index of occupations. The system is too confusing and unwieldy for ready reference and limits usefulness of the information that has been compiled.

Occupations; a selected list of pamphlets. By Gertrude Forrester, Ed.D. The H. W. Wilson Company, 1946. 240p. \$2.25.

As the demand for occupational literature increases, it is important that the librarian, teacher and counsellor have access to sources. Dr. Forrester has provided a valuable service in this index to the pamphlet literature in the field. As pointed out in the Foreword, the pamphlet becomes increasingly important as an up-to-date, inexpensive, an easily serviced and informative aid to knowledge of opportunities and qualifications. This index is important, not only as a guide to material, but as a survey as well, which calls attention to gaps in the literature.

The pamphlets included have been selected according to definite criteria with regard to scope, authority, scientific treatment, recency, suitability and availability, cost and bibliographical features. Special consideration has been given to pamphlets published in series and this group is usefully assembled according to publisher of the series in Part Five.

Parts One to Four are given to an explanation of the method of preparing the index and to guidance in the servicing and use of pamphlets in occupations.

Part Six is the annotated bibliography. Pamphlets are listed alphabetically by occupation. Titles are starred for first purchase and double starred if specially recommended. Annotations are brief and inclusive. Code numbers are assigned for each occupation as a device for indexing and filing which is explained in the preliminary chapter. Cross references are provided.

Additional pamphlets are specially grouped under the following categories: Information about several occupations; Apprenticeship; Charts and posters; Choosing a career; Occupations for the handicapped; and Seeking a job. A directory of publishers and an index to the general information in the preliminary chapters complete a very practical tool, a thorough and efficient service.

New Books

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

Catholic Book Club—April

POPE-HENNESSY, UNA. *Charles Dickens*. New York, Howell, Soskin, Publishers, Inc., 1946. \$4.00.

A definitive biography of the great nineteenth century novelist in which Dickens is subjected to a character study as scrutinizing and at the same time artistic as his own expression in fiction.

Catholic Children's Book Club—May Picture Group (P)

AVERILL, ESTHER. *Daniel Boone*. Harper. \$1.50.

This distinguished book first appeared in Paris in 1931. Almost immediately it won acclaim as a classic among the world's picture books for very young readers. Harper and Brothers now bring it out in a new and enlarged edition. The colorful illustrations, portraying Daniel Boone's adventures, are by Feodore Rojankovsky.

The House that Jack built. (One of R. Caldecott's Picture Books.) Warne. \$0.85.

The renowned Caldecott illustrations have delighted children for several generations. The child's library would be incomplete without some of these books. We are sending this as the May supplementary title for the picture book group.

Intermediate Group (A)

BOTHWELL, JEAN. *The thirteenth stone*. Harcourt, Brace. \$2.00.

Last summer Jean Bothwell in *Little boat boy*, related the experiences of Hafiz, a lady of Kashmir. Now she tells an intriguing tale of the mystery into which thirteen-year-old Jivan finds himself plunged. Twelve years stay in India enable Miss Bothwell to recapture for the American child the atmosphere of the sub-continent with its teeming millions. Once more Margaret Ayer provides attractive illustrations.

Older Boys (B)

KNIGHT, CLAYTON. *The quest of the Golden Condor*. Knopf. \$2.50.

Strange adventures happened to the two Gregory boys and their father in the quest of

the Golden Condor, treasure of the Incas. Many of the experiences have an actual foundation in fact, being based on the travels of two boys who visited the West Coast of South America in 1938. The author and illustrator is himself an inveterate traveller. He wrote much of this book between and even during flights in the war years.

Older Girls (C)

BEIM, LORRAINE. *Triumph clear*. Harcourt, Brace. \$2.00.

Instead of entering college in the fall as she had planned, Marsh Evans goes to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation as a patient. A severe case of infantile paralysis had left her crippled. This is the story of her determination to be cured, of subsequent rebellion against the Foundation, and finally of the courage with which she faces life as its real values open up to her.

Biography

DALGAIRNS, J. B. *Life of St. Stephen Harding*. The Newman Bookshop, 1946. x, 208p. \$2.50.

A reprint of the biography of the founder of the Cistercian Order, edited by John Henry Newman and published in 1898. Later revised with notes by Rev. Herbert Thurston, S.J.

MAYNARD, THEODORE. *Mystic in motley; the life of St. Philip Neri*. Bruce, 1946. 250p. \$2.50.

Without pretense of original research, Mr. Maynard has given us a most readable version of secondary sources on the life of "the Hermit of the Streets". St. Charles Borromeo, St. Francis Xavier, Animuccia, Palestrina and the "oratorios" supplement intimate glimpses of four or five popes of the late sixteenth century. Teen-age and older will read it.

Sister Mary David, S.S.N.D.

Ethics

McFADDEN, CHARLES J., O.S.A. *Medical ethics for nurses*. Philadelphia, F. A. Davis, 1946. 356p.

A textbook for nurses which is fairly well organized for teaching purposes and adapted

in its presentation of material for the group it intends to reach. Chapters are well supplemented with modern bibliographic material and there is an index.

Leonard N. Wolf, Ph.D.

Fiction

CLARKE, ISABEL C. *Subject to authority.* Longmans, Green, 1946. 288p. \$2.50.

This story is repetitious, artificial, and unconvincing and will not hold the attention of even the readers of escape fiction for whom it is evidently intended. It is concerned with the eldest son of an English Catholic family who puts his duty to his religion and his family above his love for a divorced woman.

Clara J. Kircher

Juvenile

BUCHANAN, ROSEMARY. *House of friendship.* Longmans, 1946. 165p. \$2.00.

The House of Friendship is the clubhouse of the newly organized troop of Girl Scouts at Holy Faith High School. The fun and wholesome activity that grew out of a practical antidote to disappointment will entertain the young reader.

DIAMOND, REV. WILFRID J. *Sunday morning storyland. Sermons for the children's Mass.* Bruce, 1946. 119p. \$1.75.

In this small volume, Father Diamond has taken each of the Sunday Gospels and in two pages outlined an admirable little sermon suited to the needs and understandings of children. With each he has supplied one or two delightful stories, not all necessarily original, which will hold the youngsters' attention and motivate them to the practice of virtue. A topical index will enhance the value of the books for priests, parents and teachers.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

MARGUERITE, SISTER M., C.S.J. *Their hearts are His garden.* St. Anthony Guild, 1946. xiv, 169p. \$2.25.

For the child who is old enough to listen, these simple, informal stories about the saints will be the means of building up a spiritual awareness of God's loving Providence. Colored illustrations.

NEWCOMB, COVELLE. *Larger than the sky.* Longmans, 1945. 216p. \$2.50.

For three years the well-known Catholic chronicler of lives toiled to make Cardinal Gibbons live for us as he did for her. Faithfully she follows him as a boy from Ireland to America, to New Orleans, to his priesthood among the poor in Maryland, to his Civil War work and friendship with Lincoln, to his fight for American labor and against

the K.K.K. Love for the poor, the immigrant and for children shines throughout with many a kindly and humorous twist. Not the least on the road to the Cardinalate was his friendship with three Presidents and a multitude of non-Catholics. A book badly needed in the cross-currents of today. Highly recommended for all Catholic libraries—and others, too!

R. J. Hurley

WATSON, KATHERINE. *Their way.* Whitman, 1945. 160p. \$2.00.

It was our privilege some time ago to read the galleys of this collection of Catholic stories by Head of the Children's Department of the Denver Public Library. The fifteen little stories have as many themes and interests—St. Nicholas, St. Patrick and the last snake, how St. Therese's linnnet learned to sing, the inspired Maid of France, Barry, dog of St. Bernard Hospice, Stockton's Snow King, Lage-lof's *Legend of the Christmas Rose* are a few. St. Francis' wolf of Gubbio is here, also a story from the Dominican Republic "Our Holy Lady of Good Grace", an Easter story, *The white blackbird*, the *Christmas monks* is one of the most unusual and striking stories we have ever read, Rene and Hermann Joseph will capture one's heart. The reference in Parker's *Elizabeth Roses* to "the great reformer, Luther" is the only flaw in our gem. As a superb collection of stories for younger children, this should be available to all Catholic youngsters.

R. J. Hurley

Religion

BRICE, REVEREND FATHER, C.P. *Spirit in darkness; A Companion to Book Two of the Ascent of Mt Carmel.* Pustet, 1946. 356p. \$3.50.

Father Brice elucidates the mystical doctrine of St. John of the Cross, explaining the "darkness" as the obscurity accompanying Faith in the progress toward contemplative Union. The author follows the steps of St. John's analysis of the kinds of knowledge that direct man's intellect to complete understanding.

CURRAN, FRANCIS X., S.J. *Major trends in American Church history.* America, 1946. 198p. \$2.50.

In brief and readable compass Father Curran has produced a general overview of the history of the churches in these United States. Dealing only with general trends, he outlines the development of all the Christian churches in this country. Indexed and well documented, it is excellent introductory reading in the field.

Leonard N. Wolf, Ph.D.

JOHN EUDES, ST. *The Sacred Heart of Jesus.* Translated by Dom Richard

Flower, O.S.B. Kenedy, 1946. xxx, 184p. \$2.00.

This is the second volume in a series of six which will present for the first time in English the works of St. John Eudes. It is taken from the twelfth book of the Saint's work *The Admirable Heart of the Mother of God*. A very significant spiritual book, it is noteworthy for solid doctrine and deep devotion. The prayers composed by St. John and included in an appendix will be of great use to many in their private exercises. Dom Richard Flower has produced an excellent translation. Reverend Gerald B. Phelan provides an enlightening Introduction to the writings of St. John Eudes.

Richard J. Neu, S.J.

MACNEILL, VERY REV. LEON A. *The way of life*. St. Anthony Guild, 1946. 240p. \$1.00.

"An enriched course of instruction on the Commandments of God and of the Church; based on Part 2 of the revised edition of the Baltimore Catechism, no 2." A religion text in the *Mystical Body of Christ* series.

MAGUIRE, THEOPHANE, C.P. *Hunan harvest*. Bruce, 1946. 192p. \$2.50.

A sincere and inspiring account of the work of the missionaries in China, written by a Passionist Father who spent several years in the Province of Hunan. From the first painful severing of home ties through untiring and zealous ministering to God's children in the Orient, the missionary sounds the depths of sacrifice and love.

MARTINDALE, CYRIL C., S.J. *Creative love*. Sheed, 1946. 48p. \$1.00.

Six readings for Holy Week. The theme: Love—God's love for us and ours for Him. The readings should renew hope against the discouragement that follows the destructive war.

MUSSER, BENJAMIN FRANCIS, O.F.M. *Kyrie Eleison. Two hundred litanies with historico-liturgical introduction and notes*. Newman Bookshop, 1944. 300p. \$2.50.

The compiler explains that not all of the litanies included in this collection have been approved for private devotional use. His footnotes clearly indicate those which bear the *Imprimatur*.

More than a devotional manual, this is rather a comprehensive and comparative grouping "showing the various types of this form of prayer, and the many themes to which it is applied". The list of sources and acknowledgments indicate painstaking research.

Sociology

FLEMING, BERNARD J. and others. *The social studies review book: economics,*

world history, American history, and American problems. The Declan X. McMullen Co., c1946. 313p.

Complete digests of essential information on the topics indicated. Includes a comprehensive summary of materials for the New York State Regents examination in "American History and World Backgrounds". Objective tests are included at the end of each section and supplementary material on testing is appended. Scaled sample answers to Regents questions are provided to help the teacher and student.

WALSH, JAMES F. *Facing your social situation*. Bruce, 1946. xi, 237p. \$2.75.

A simple treatment of social psychology addressed to the general reader. The author discusses how social situations are created, how we react to them and how we can effectively control them, and leads into a consideration of standard situations: the Family, the School, the Church, the Workshop and the State.

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